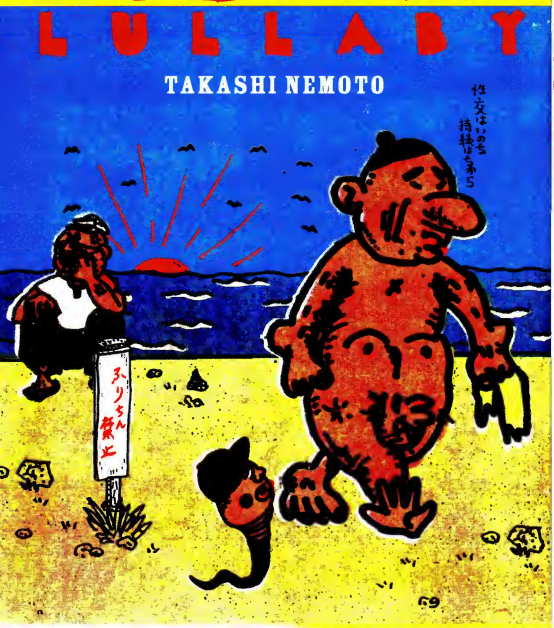
MONSTER MEN

BUREIKO

LULLABY

TAKASHI NEMOTO



MONSTER MEN BUREIKO LULLABY TAKASHI NEMOTO

PictureBox

This seminal work of manga first published in 1990 is the Candide-like tale of the misadventures of a sperm exposed to radioactivity and given life. Unremittingly explicit, this work is the comics equivalent of Henry Miller at his extreme best: beautiful and grotesque all at once. Nemoto is often called the R. Crumb of Japan, and this powerful, terrifying, and often hilarious book will show exactly why.

Takashi Nemoto was born in 1958 in Tokyo, where he continues to live and work. He has been publishing comics, essays and art at a rapid pace since 1981. Monster Men Bureiko Lullaby is his first book to appear in English.

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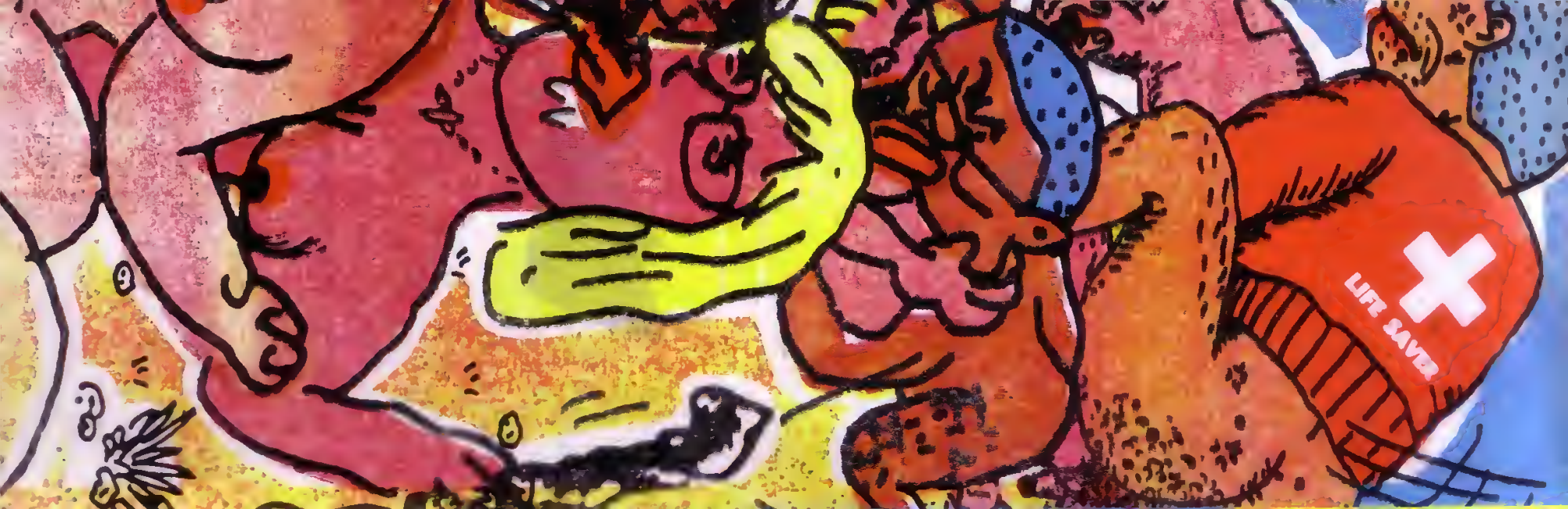
LIFE SAVER

LIFE SAVER

根本敬
DESIGNED BY
MISTA GONZO
AND GANGROCK
KAPPA SH_T
PRODUCTIONS*

MONSTER MEN BUREIKO LULLABY TAKASHI NEMOTO

MONSTER MEN
BUREIKO LULLABY

TAKASHI NEMOTO

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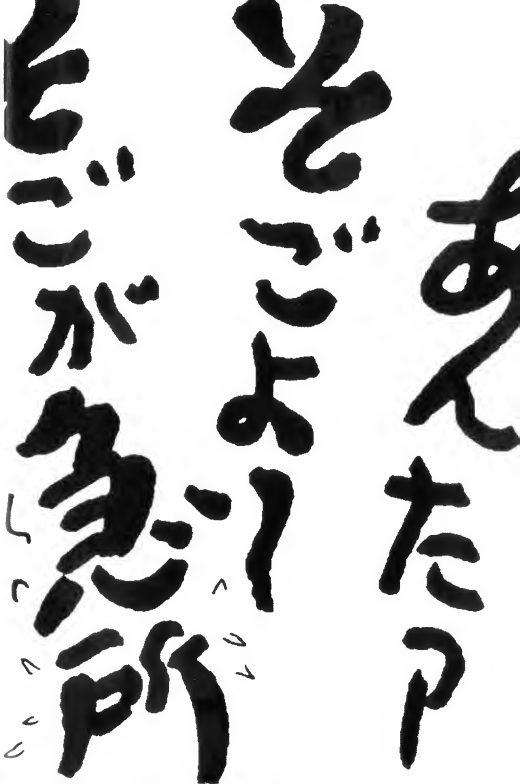

NOT JUST A DISSIDENT TEXT TO BE TOSSED IN A LANDFILL

Tomofusa Kure, 1990

It was in 1981 that Takashi Nemoto's work first appeared in *Garo*. Although Nemoto has been creating manga professionally for over a decade [as of 1990], only in the last few years have I begun to recognize the value of his work. Frankly, I did not much care for his work before. Unlike those who read the current volume with frowns on their faces (because they bought the book mistakenly, thinking it was written by Susumu Nemoto), the vulgarity was not what I disliked about Nemoto's work. As I was already in my mid-thirties at the time, I was not innocent enough to be offended by a little crassness. I did not value the work because I thought it would just add to the waste filling up the landfills on the outskirts of Tokyo.

There is a massive landfill at one end of comic history. This landfill is filled with useless junk, which no one pays attention to today, but which was once heralded as avant-garde, heretical, dissident, revolutionary, or the like. I'll admit that once, in my twenties, my dreams were devoted to the stuff of this landfill. But when I encountered Nemoto's work, I was already aware of the harsh irony inherent in such works. I simply could not bring myself to praise Takashi Nemoto, who seemed, to me, not unlike a drunk trying to pick a fight with decency.

I began to appreciate Nemoto's work only after reading "Monster Man Bureiko," the first story included in this volume. "Monster Man Bureiko" was first published as a serial in *QA*, a magazine put out by Heibonsha, a publisher known for its encyclopedias. "Monster Man Bureiko" ran only six times over the course of six months. *QA* was a question-and-answer-themed magazine, primarily comprising columns that addressed questions sent in by its young readers. Although the magazine seemed quite tolerant of dissident views, "Monster Man Bureiko" was apparently unacceptable, and the magazine was flooded with letters of complaint. "Monster Man Bureiko" went beyond the realm of acceptable transgressions. Nemoto has never concerned himself with decency, but "Monster Man Bureiko" was downright abnormal—even deviant. Unlike the readers of *QA*, I was attracted to "Monster Man Bureiko." I was amazed that with every issue, in just three pages, Nemoto could narrate such an insane story through such completely fucked-up drawings. It is the insanity that makes the work transcend the type of abjection and embarrassment

involved in acceptable transgressions. "Monster Man Bureiko" seemed to flirt intentionally with true deviance.

Some readers may feel that affecting insanity is easy. How hard can it be, after all, to draw something that looks fucked-up? In fact, it is quite difficult. Attempts to make something crazy usually result in merely debased versions of the normal. To make something truly fucked-up, one has to be either mad or truly determined. Since there is no going back once he or she starts down either path, both are equally dangerous.

Critics, however, are cruel. Seeing corpse upon corpse piled up in the landfill of discarded avant-gardes and dissidents, we reproach those who sweet-talked artists into taking on such experiments, but refrain from warning those like Nemoto, who was clearly dabbling with danger. I was no exception. I quietly hoped that he would make even more interesting work.

For better or worse, one year after the publication of "Monster Man Bureiko," I was ecstatically surprised when in 1989 Nemoto released "The World According to Takeo." It was so daring that it probably could not have been published anywhere other than in *Garo*. I was thrilled and nervous the whole time it was serialized. Naturally, I was thrilled because it was so good. But there were two reasons why I was nervous. For one, I was concerned that, whether for or against it, Nemoto would begin worrying about decency. In other words, I was worried that Nemoto would start drawing comics that either support common decency or pick a fight with it. My other fear was that Nemoto would be restrained by a sense of decency. Although my worries and concerns were understandable given the way the story begins, they proved to be unfounded. He completed the first section of "The World According to Takeo" unscathed.

The second part of "The World According to Takeo" was newly written for the current volume. I had been looking forward to this installment and had the chance to read an advance of it in early 1990. I am amazed that he could sustain the fucked-up quality of the story all the way through. Incredibly, the subplots that developed in all kinds of directions converge as the story leads to its final scene. This is what it means to *create* a narrative work. Compared to "Monster Man Bureiko" and "The World According to Takeo," "Penis Life" and "The Sex Rouge" feel as if they were written with the reader in mind. Still, the latter two stories were published in *Heibon Punch* and *Ryuko Shashin*, respectively. It isn't as if many of *Heibon Punch*'s readers, who buy the magazine for its youth-targeted information and pin-ups of the latest idols, or *Ryuko Shashin*'s readers, who expect to see up-the-skirt photos and sex-related articles, would have welcomed Nemoto's work. Even with that in mind, I still feel as if he is pandering to his readers in these two works. Thus, they do

not feel as finished as "The World According to Takeo." "Penis Life" and "The Sex Rouge" are better appreciated for their moments of intrigue, for it is likely that the ideas in these sketches prepared Nemoto for his later pieces.

Although not included in the current volume, "Twenty-First Century Psychopath," published in *Rockin' Comic* in the fall of 1989, is also a great work. Although it is just a short story, the unique world that Nemoto depicted in it had the strength to completely draw its readers in.

Although the current volume has just been completed, I am already anxious to read Nemoto's next work. Takashi Nemoto's heretical texts have nothing in common with the bleak landfill of past avant-gardes.

Tomofusa Kure
Born in Aichi prefecture in 1946, Kure writes criticism on a broad range of topics including philosophy, society, and comics, calling modernity into question from a Nemotian perspective. He also lectures on comics theory at university. His numerous publications include *Baka ni Tsukeru Kusuri* [*Ointment to Cure Idiots*] (Futabasha) and *Manga no Zentaizou: Zouteiban* [*The Gestalt of Contemporary Manga: The Expanded Edition*] (Futabasha).

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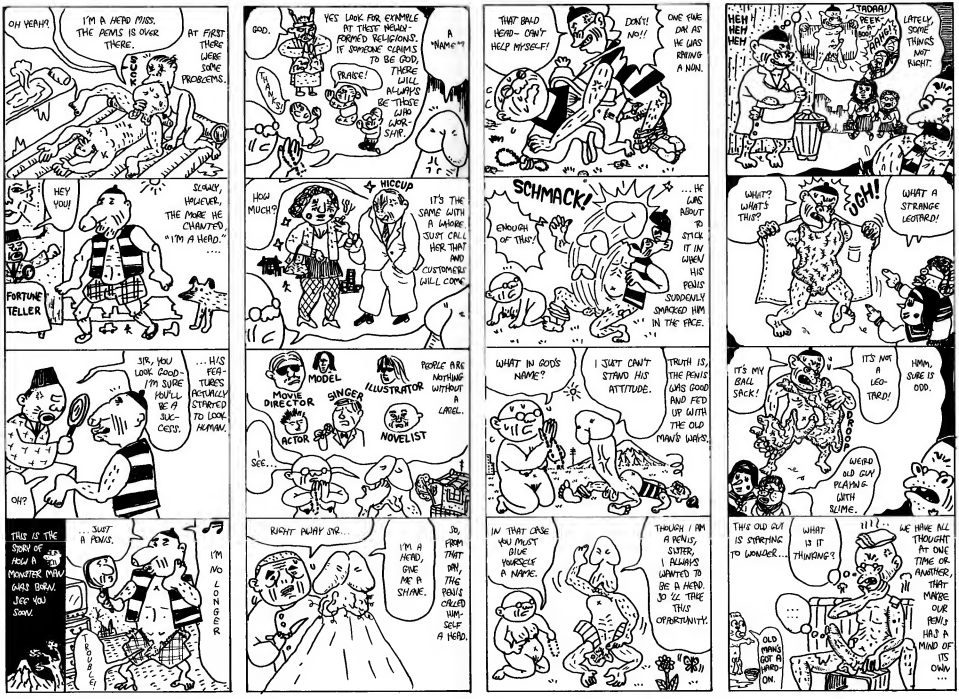
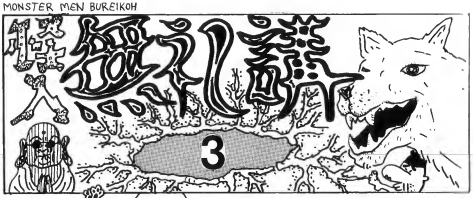

OH YEAH?
I'M A HERO MISS. THE PENIS IS OVER THERE.
AT FIRST THERE WERE SOME PROBLEMS.
SOCK!
FORTUNE TELLER
HEY YOU!
SCARY, HOWEVER, THE MORE HE CHANTED "I'M A HERO." ....
SIR, YOU LOOK GOOD- I'M SURE YOU'LL BE A SUCCESS.
... HIS FEATURES ACTUALLY STARTED TO LOOK HUMAN.
OH?
THIS IS THE STORY OF HOW A MONSTER MAN GAVE BIRTH. SEE YOU SOON.
JUST A PENIS.
I'M NO LONGER
LOVOLE
GOD.
YES! LOOK FOR EXAMPLE AT THESE NEWLY FORMED RELIGIONS. IF SOMEONE CLAIMS TO BE GOD, THERE WILL ALWAYS BE THOSE WHO LOSE SHIP.
PRAISE!
FRANKIE!
A "NAME"?
HOW MUCH?
HICCUP
IT'S THE SAME WITH A WORK SUCH CALL HER THAT AND CUSTOMERS WILL COME.
MOVIE DIRECTOR
MODEL
ILLUSTRATOR
SINGER
ACTOR
NOVELIST
PEOPLE ARE NOTHING WITHOUT A LABEL.
SEE...
RIGHT AWAY SIR...
I'M A HERO, GIVE ME A SHANE.
SO, FROM THAT DAY, THE PENIS CALLED HIMSELF A HERO.
THAT BALD HEAD- CAN'T HELP MYSELF!
DON'T! NO!!
ONE FINE DAY AS HE WAS RAPING A MAN.
SCHMACK!
ENOUGH OF THIS!
... HE WAS ABOUT TO STICK IT IN WHEN HIS PENIS SUDDENLY SMACKED HIM IN THE FACE.
WHAT IN GOD'S NAME?
I JUST CAN'T STAND HIS ATTITUDE.
TRUTH IS, THE PENIS WAS GOOD AND FED UP WITH THE OLD MAN'S WAYS.
IN THAT CASE YOU MUST GIVE YOURSELF A NAME.
THOUGH, I AM A PENIS, SISTER, I ALWAYS WANTED TO BE A HERO. SO LL TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY.
"GIO"
HEH HEH HEH
TADAA! PEEK-BOO!
AHHH!
LATELY, SOME THINGS NOT RIGHT.
WHAT? WHAT'S THIS?
OGH!
WHAT A STRANGE LEOTARD!
IT'S MY BALL SACK!
IT'S NOT A LEOTARD!
HMM, SURE IS ODD.
SKOOOO
WE'RE OLD GUM PLAYING WITH SLIME.
THIS OLD CUT IS STARTING TO WONDER...
WHAT IS IT THINKING?
WE HAVE ALL THOUGHT AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER, THAT MAYBE OUR PENIS HAS A MIND OF ITS OWN...
OLD MAN'S GOT A HARD-ON.

怪人無礼講

2

A STUDIO GROOPALUS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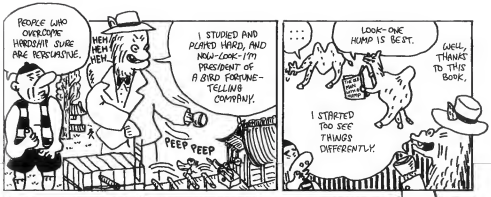
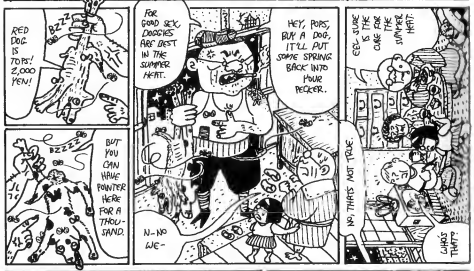
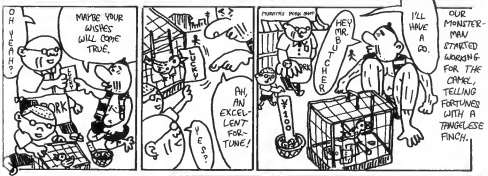
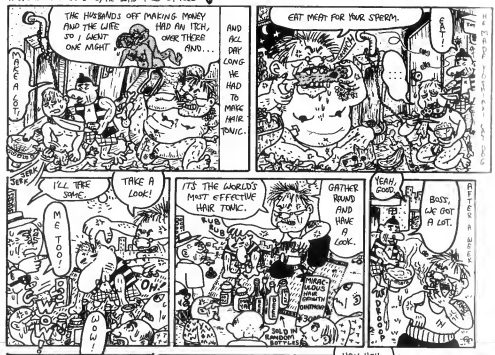

PEOPLE WHO OVERCOME HARDSHIP SURE ARE REMARKABLE.
HEH HEH HEH...
I STUDIED AND PRAYED HARD, AND NOW--LOOK--I'M PRESIDENT OF A BIRD FORTUNE-TELLING COMPANY.
PEEP PEEP
LOOK--ONE HUMP IS BEAT.
WELL, THANKS TO THIS BOOK,
I STARTED TO SEE THINGS DIFFERENTLY.


RED DOG IS TOTO! 2,000 YEN!
FOR GOOD LUCK CHARMS ARE BEST IN THE SUMMER HEAT.
HEY, POPS, BUY A DOG, IT'LL PUT SOME SPRING BACK INTO YOUR STEGER.
EEL SOUP IS THE CURE FOR THE SUMMER HEAT!
BUT YOU CAN HAVE PAINTER HERE FOR A THOUSAND.
N-NO WE-
NO, THAT'S NOT TRUE
CHRIS THAT'S


OH YEAH!
MAYBE YOUR WISHES WILL COME TRUE.
AH, AN EXCELLENT FORTUNE!
HEY MR. B
I'LL HAVE A GO.
OUR MONSTER-MAN STARTED GROOMING FOR THE CAMEL, TELLING FORTUNES WITH A TANGELESE FINCH.

EH?
GRANDPA, HOW ARE BABIES BORN?
PORK
DIVORCE HER!
I'M THAT COUNTRY BARBER WHO'LL BE OUT-CASTS.
SHIP TO PORK
THEN I GAVE THAT MY DAUGHTER WHO MARRIED A NORTH REGION AND MOVED THERE WILL HAVE A BABY.
WAH! WAH!
BOOK
SAHARA WAS RAIDED BY A STORK IN NORTH EUROPA.
AND AS THE OLD MAN SPOKE
HERE YA GO!
BABIES ARE DELIVERED BY THE STORK. HM. HM.
WELL, ER, THAT IS...
TELL ME GRANDPA!

NO ONE AROUND BUT WOMEN AND KIDS.
BUT THIS GUY'S BUSINESS FAILED, AND HE HAD TO GO BACK TO FARMING HOMES.
OH MAYAKO-CHAN I'M COMING!
CHIRRUP
CHIRRUP
BUT AT THAT TIME IN THE MURATA HOUSEHOLD HOSHIAKI WAS HOME ALONE BROODING OFF.
THEN YOU'LL BE WELL-FED IN THE MARINAIS.
HEH HEH HEH
EAT THIS AND YOU'LL BE ABLE TO MAKE YOUR LIFE HAPPY AT NIGHT.
B-BUT I, UH...
THUD


INSTEAD OF DIRTY BOOKS, HE WAS TOLD STORIES
THE HUSBAND'S OFF MAKING MONEY AND THE WIFE SO I WENT ONE NIGHT
AND ALL DAY LONG WE HAD TO MAKE HAIR TONIC.
EAT MEAT FOR YOUR STERM.
I'LL TRY SOME.
TAKE A LOOK!
IT'S THE WORLD'S MATT EFFECTIVE HAIR TONIC.
GATHER ROUND AND HAVE A LOOK.
YEAH, GOOD!
BOSS, WE GOT A LOT.
AFTER A WEEK
ME TOO!
OH NO!
WOW!
WOW, IT REALLY WORKS!
HER PUBIC HAIR GREW THE PROBLEM SPOT. THAT'S WHY SHE WAS STILL AN UNMARRIED VIRGIN.
WILL IT WORK ON ANY PART OF THE BODY?
ONE DAY A CAN-MAN APPEARED.
HEH HEH BIG BUCKS!
THE TOWN OLD LIE! HOT CAKES AND THE TROJAN WAS CURED OF BALDNESS.
TIME TO WASH THIS PAGE. SEE YOU SOON.
THE BRIDE AND GROOM SO HERE!
TO MAKE A LONG STORY SHORT, THROUGH THE MONTENEGRAN'S GOOD LUCK AND HARD WORK, A MARRIAGE WAS ARRANGED BETWEEN THE CANMAN AND YOSHIKO.
WHILE GATHERING THE STUFF AROUND HER CUNT, SOME MUTTVE SEEPED IN.
FINE MONTHS.
BUT SUPERSTANLY, THIS CANMAN GOT PREGNANT.
WHAT?!

SHIT, ONLY 2,000 YEN.
HAU HUMMERING...
AUGHH~
SPLASH
YOUR MONEY OR YOUR LIFE, KID!
CREEK
HMM, MAYBE IT WAS THAT SHOT OF CUM.
STRANGE, MY HAIR IS GROWING.
BUT THEN AGAIN...
WE'RE HOME!
OH NO!
TIME TO SAY GOODBYE!
I GOTTA TRY AGAIN!
A DOUBLE DOSE LATER
TRASH
MAYBE IT'S SOMETHIN' ABOUT THAT KIDS.
HMM, JUST NOT THE SAME.
SO FIRST HE TRIED HIS OWN SPERM.
I'LL MAKE A FORTUNE!
THAT NIGHT HE BROKE IN AND KIDNAPPED YOSHIKO.
UHHAA!
WOW, THIS IS AMAZING!! I HAVE HAIR!
HE MASSAGED HIS HEAD WITH YOSHIKO'S SPERM.
YES, YES THIS IS IT!
TRASH

THE OLD MAN WAS BORN IN THE YEAR OF THE DOG, SO HE NAMED THE PLACE "DOG SUSHI."

BUT...
S.OOO YOU FOR THE BUNCH
UGH!
HELLO
THUD
GUESS I'LL SELL THESE TODAY.
AH, PORNO.
OH! WANNA TRADE ME LIVING SELLING THINGS TO THE BALD GUY.
SPECTACULAR!
THEY'D CLOSED. BUT MONSTERMAN LET THE OLD MAN HAVE HIS LIFE WITH HIM.
GULP
UGH!
WEL-COME!
AND WHO LIGHTS TO EAT JOHN MADE BY A YAKUZA WITH MISSING FINGERS, AND AN CY-BORG WHO LIKES THE FLESH OF HUMANS?
BOOM
BOOM
ZOOM-WAP ZAP SOCK-WOW-TOP
5
SOCK!
SOCK!
SOCK!

A SUSHI DINNER. ON ME, IN HONOR OF YOUR NEW JOB.
GEE.
THEN...
HEY, YOU, I JUST POPPED OUT OF AN OLD MAN'S NUTS!
AH...
BUT...
HE'S A REAL DRUNK, BUT DOESN'T DO DRUGS. I CAN VOUCH FOR HIS CHARACTER.
MAN, YOU HAD AN EMERGENCY ON A SUNDAY?
HEY, ONIYAMA, HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN A WHILE.
HELLO THERE!
OOPS, A CUST-OMER.
AH, THIS IS THE COLON POLYP.
CHAPTER END... SEE YOU SOON
WHAT'S THAT?
PEEP
BERTO HAVING TO DEAL WITH ONIYAMA.
HONEY, CAN WE AFFORD TO HIRE SUCH A MAN?
TUNA FOR ME.
NOT REALLY, I JUST FOO-LING WITH A CADAVER.
THE PROMINENT SURGEON DR KANME HAMA, MAN-LIGHTS HIS WEEKENDS AS A SUSHI CHEF.
GIVE ME SET...
AIN'T HE A CUTE LITTLE THING?
SURE IS.
LITTLE ONIYAMA
WHAT'S UP?
HE'S STUCK IN THERE.
PEEP
PEEP

WHA-?
WOO WOO WOO
QUIVER
IT'S BEEN 10 YEARS.
DON'T WORRY JUST COME INSIDE ME.
AHH— YOU'RE ONE TOUGH GRANDPA.
SHEE
SHEE
SHEE
SHEE
EH?
HEY SADAKICHI, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
AAAAH!
FSHHH
FREE AT LAST!
QUIVER
MURATA CREDIT UNION
AS A TOKEN OF MY GRATITUDE, I'LL HELP YOU FIND A JOB.
I SEE... ORIGINALLY A POOR, YOU'VE BEEN DISCRIMINATED AGAINST AND NOW YOU SELL YOUR BODY.
YES.
THEY ONCE SHARED A ROTTEN MEAL IN JAIL.
HE'S SORT OF A WOLF, BUT NEVER RAPES. AND, YEAH, HE'S A GAMBLER, BUT NEVER CHEATS.
HE'S A LITTLE VIOLENT BUT HE NEVER KILLS.
HE'S A BIT OF A THIEF, BUT HE'S NO BURG-LAR.

BU
RE
KO
6
MAKING CHILDREN'S DREAMS COME TRUE.
BUT ONCE HE WAS SANTA CLAUS.
74-YEAR-OLD SANTA KUZ IS SPENDING HIS LAST DAYS IN "HEAVEN," AN OLD MAN'S NURSERY IN JAITAMA PREF.
WHAT DOES THIS KID GET?
MERRY CHRISTMAS!
HE EVENTUALLY FREAKED WHEN CHRISTMAS WAS, AND THOUGHT IT CAME EVERY DAY AND NIGHT.
WHAT'S THIS?
HE GOT LAMPS AND MORE.
STONE LANTERN
BUT A FEW YEARS AGO HE STARTED TO FORGET THINGS.
AGAIN?!!
AT SCHOOL...
TODAY IS CHILDREN'S DAY.
HE'S ALWAYS TRYING TO SNEAK OFF AND
C'MON GRANDPA.
A WELFARE WORKER TOOK HIM TO THE OLD AGE HOME. BUT PHYSICALLY HE'S FINE.

IF YOU CAN'T DO IT TOMORROW, I'LL BE FORCED TO GIVE YOU AN ENEMA IN FRONT OF THE WHALE CLASS.
SNICKER SNICKER HAHA
TEE-HEE HEH-HEH
HOW'S IT GOING MURATA? SHIT CAMING?
NOT YET SIR.
IT WAS TIME FOR CHILDREN TO EXAMINE THEIR STOOL. SAWARI, CONSTIPATED, WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO COULDN'T PRODUCE.
LITTLE GIRL, WON'T YOU BUY SOME SHIT? I ACCEPT MASTERCARD.
VISA
WHAT CAN I DO? I DRANK THIRTY CANS OF YOGURT AND TOOK A HUNDRED LAXATIVES.
AH, SHIT- IT'S SHIT!
EH?
HELLO THERE.
O.K. A FINE CHOICE!
GIVE ME THIS ONE.
I TAUGHT YOU NEVER TO CHEAT!
BUT I'M THE ONLY KID WHO CAN'T SHIT!
WHAT'S THIS?
I GOT IT!
BYE.
Hop!

BIZARRE! THE GIFT OF A PERVERTED PAINTER

鮫道一代

SAI: PENIS. A BABY'S PENIS. TRO TE CHING HSHANG GONG VERSION: A BABY WHO HAS NEVER HAD SEX CAN GET AN ERECTION. THIS IS BECAUSE HE IS FILLED WITH SPIRIT.

HA, HA, HA FOOL!

HA HA! SAYONARA!

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IT TOLD OF A 59 YEAR OLD PAINTER LIVING IN YOKO-HAMA WHO GAVE HIS PENIS TO A SUMMR HIGHSCHOOL GIRL....

THIS CAN'T BE!

PAINTER TOMO SEISHI

TOMO SEISHI

WHA-?!

RETURNING FROM MY TRIP TO THE KANTAI DISTRICT, I FOUND THIS DISTURBING ARTICLE IN A GOSSIP MAGAZINE.

IF I CAN'T SHIT TOMORROW, I'LL HANG MYSELF.

I'M GONNA GIVE YOU AN ENEMA!

BUT NO MATTER HOW HARD SHE TRIED....

THE FECES YOU EXAMINE MUST BE YOUR OWN!

YES, SIR.

NNNNN

PUBLIC BATH

JINGLE BELL

THAT NIGHT...

...LEAVING GIFTS FOR THE CHILDREN.

SANTA WENT FROM HOUSE TO HOUSE.

WHISH

NNNNN

YES, EVERYTHING WORKED OUT JUST FINE.

YAY!

YAY!

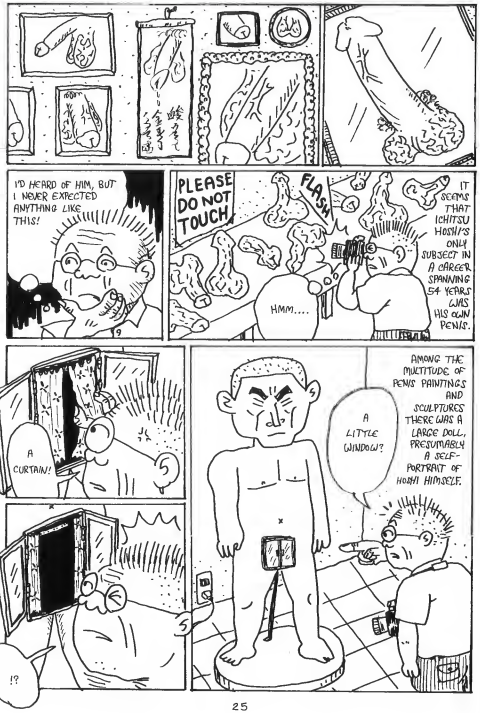
SAMURI WAS DELIGHTED WITH THIS UNEXPECTED GIFT.

EXCEPT...

I-I DIDN'T DO IT!

HOW OLD ARE YOU NOW?!

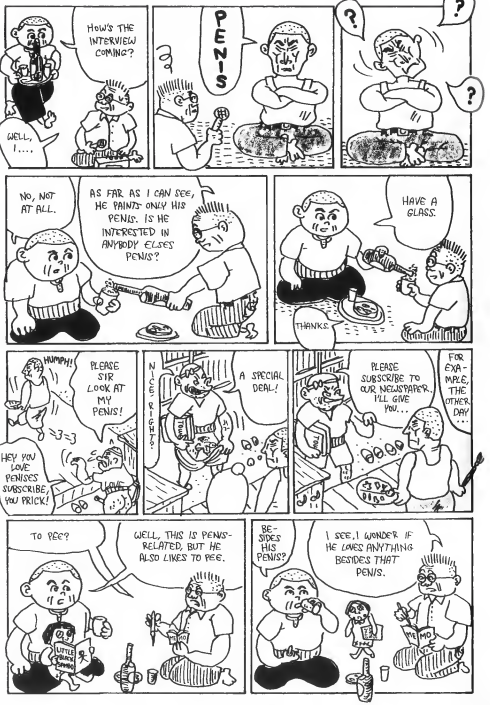
THE NEXT MORNING THERE WAS TROUBLE IN EVERY HOUSEHOLD.


I'D HEARD OF HIM, BUT I NEVER EXPECTED ANYTHING LIKE THIS!
PLEASE DO NOT TOUCH
FLASH
IT SEEMS THAT ICHITSU HOSHI'S ONLY SUBJECT IN A CAREER SPANNING 54 YEARS WAS HIS OWN PENIS.
HMM....
A CURTAIN!
!?
A LITTLE WINDOW?
AMONG THE MULTITUDE OF PENIS PAINTINGS AND SCULPTURES THERE WAS A LARGE DOLL, PRESUMABLY A SELF-PORTRAIT OF HOSHI HIMSELF.

AAAAAAAAGH!!
WILL YOU BE QUIET!?
MA! MA!
WHERE'D YOU GET THAT?
MR. GAVE IT TO ME.
WHAT COULD IT BE?
BUT I COULDN'T AGREE WITH THE CONCLUSION, BECAUSE YOU SEE I KNOW THE PAINTER!
TRUE STORIES
NOTORIOUS MADAME
IT WAS AN ENJOYABLE AND WELL-WRITTEN PIECE.
OH NO!
... ON THE SIDE OF THE ROAD
KAW!
THE ARTICLE SUGGESTED THAT THIS WAS MERELY AN EXTREME CASE OF AN OLD MAN EXPOSING HIMSELF TO YOUNG GIRLS...
ISHIKAWA GALLERY
HOSHI SOLO EXHIBIT
I COVERED THE STORY FOR A LOCAL MAGAZINE.
PENIS LOVER
SEX FIEND

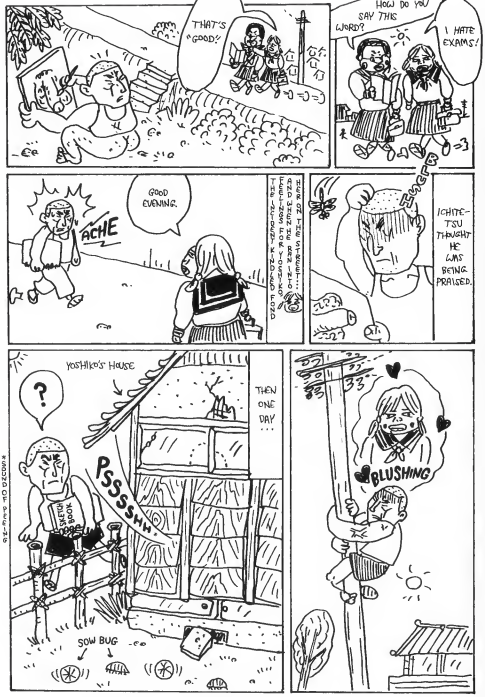
STAND OUTSIDE!
HIROHITO
SHOWING HIS PENIS IN CLASS?!
SNORE
I SEE HE REALLY LOVES THAT PENIS.
SCHWING
YEAH.
HE'S BEEN THAT WAY EVER SINCE.
OH?
WHOA!
SHE-LE-
SHE-LE-
HUH?
PAT PAT

HELLO, I CALLED EARLIER.
OH YES, COME UP.
I DECIDED TO VISIT HAM, AND ASK SOME QUESTIONS.
INSIDE WAS A TINY PENIS.
NICE TO MEET YOU
TETSU, THIS IS THE MAN FROM THE MAGAZINE.
THIS IS MY BROTHER.
HACHI WAS STILL SINGLE. HE LIVED WITH HIS YOUNGER BROTHER'S FAMILY.
GOOD EVENING.
I'M AFRAID BIG BROTHER HARDLY SPEAKS AT ALL.
I ONLY HAVE A COUPLE QUESTIONS.
CHOMP CHOMP
WHO IS...
HE NEVER BOTHERED TO LEARN THE LANGUAGE.
EVER SINCE HE WAS A KID HE'S BEEN FASCINATED BY HIS PENIS HE WAS SO OBSESSED.


HOW'S THE INTERVIEW COMING?
WELL, I....
PENIS
?
?
?
NO, NOT AT ALL.
AS FAR AS I CAN SEE, HE PAINTS ONLY HIS PENIS. IS HE INTERESTED IN ANYBODY ELSES PENIS?
HAVE A GLASS.
THANKS.
HUMPH!
PLEASE SIR LOOK AT MY PENIS!
HEY YOU LOVE PENISES SUBSCRIBE, YOU PRICK!
NICE RIGHTS!
A SPECIAL DEAL!
PLEASE SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSPAPER. I'LL GIVE YOU...
FOR EXAMPLE, THE OTHER DAY...
TO PEE?
WELL, THIS IS PENIS-RELATED, BUT HE ALSO LIKES TO PEE.
BESIDES HIS PENIS?
I SEE, I WONDER IF HE LOVES ANYTHING BESIDES THAT PENIS.

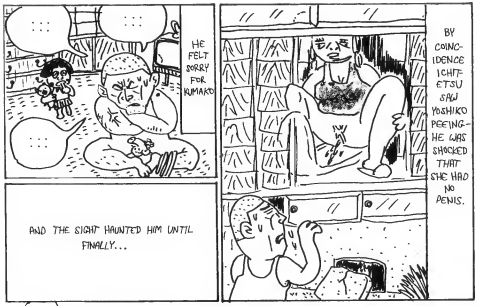
SO,
PLEASE ACT SURPRISED.
BRO THINKS HIS PENIS IS THE ONLY ONE THAT STANDS. SO HE ENTERTAINS VISITORS BY SHOWING OFF.
OH.
BOING
HE'S VERY PURE.
BLUSHING
AMAZING! SPECTACULAR!
WHOAH!
WHAT DOES THE PENIS MEAN TO YOU, MR. HASHI?
WHY ARE YOU ABSORBED BY THE PENIS?
POOF
OK, WELL?

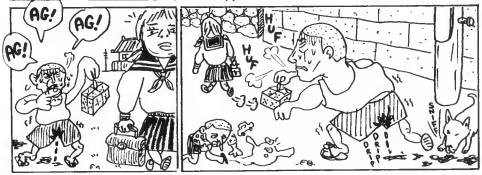
HMM...
WHAT'S WRONG TETSU?
OUCH! OUCH!
HE CAN'T HELP IT.
SO HE WANTS THE PEE TO KEEP ON COMING.
YES, HE'S AMAZED THAT WATER COMES OUT OF HIS PENIS.
WELL THEN, MR. HOSHI...
AND THE TIGERS WENT AROUND AND AROUND.
LOOK AT THE TIME — I MUST BE GOING.
O.K.
HOPE YOU MAKE A GOOD STORY.
THANKS FOR EVERYTHING.
SO I LEFT HIM WITHOUT A WORD.
HE WAS ALREADY BACK AT HIS LIFE'S WORK.
2 MONTHS AGO
BESIDES, HE NEVER USED IT FOR ANYTHING BUT PEEING AND PAINTING.
HOSHI WAS SO PURE, THERE MUST BE SOME OTHER EXPLANATION FOR THIS INCIDENT.
SUE-ZOKU'S MOB BOOKS
NOTORIOUS MADAME

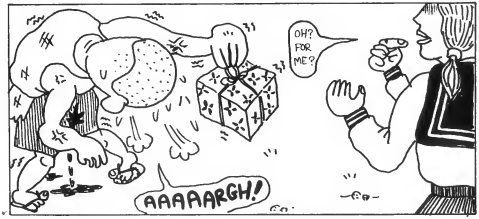

THAT'S "GOOD."
HOW DO YOU SAY THIS WORD?
I HATE EXAMS!
GOOD EVENING.
ACHE
ICHITEI-TSU THOUGHT HE WAS BEING PRAISED.
YOSHIKO'S HOUSE
?
PSSSSHH...
SOW BUG
THEN ONE DAY...
BLUSHING

LAWLESS COMICS
なる色無様
OUR HERO, SADAKICHI SUZUKI MATURED AT AN EARLY AGE (HE'S ONLY SIX YEARS OLD) →

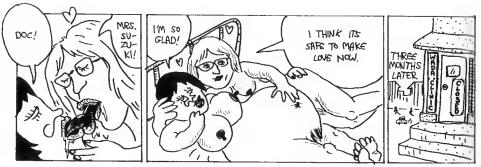
EXAMINATION ROOM
MRS. SUZUKI, PLEASE.
ATION OF UTERUS CANCER
THAT'S ME.

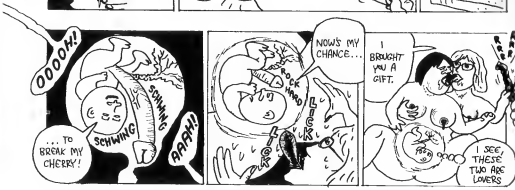

HE FELT SORRY FOR KUMIKO
BY COINCIDENCE ICHITETSU SAW YOSHIKO PEEING— HE WAS SHOCKED THAT SHE HAD NO PENIS.
AND THE SIGHT HAUNTED HIM UNTIL FINALLY...

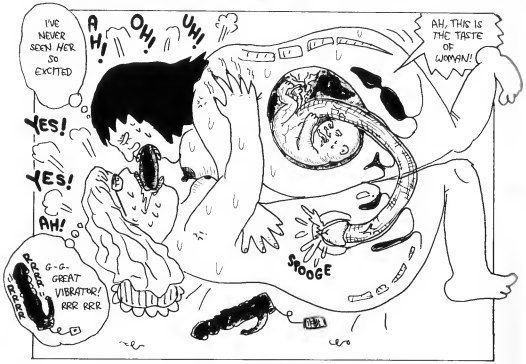

AG!
AG!
AG!
HF
HF
DRIP!
DRIP!

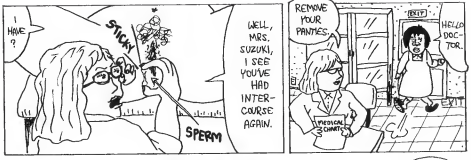

OH? FOR ME?
AAAAARGH!

THE END

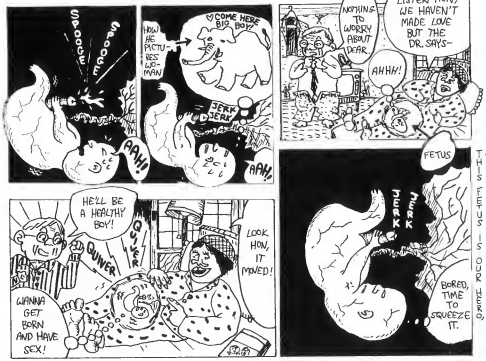

DOC!
MRS. SUZUKI!
I'M SO GLAD!
I THINK ITS SAFE TO MAKE LOVE NOW.
THREE MONTHS LATER
MISS CHIEF
DOCTOR

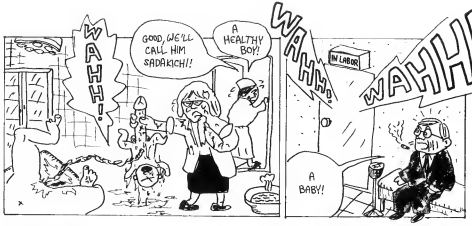

OOOOH!
... TO BREAK MY CHEEKY!
SCHWING
SCHWING
AAAHH!
NOW'S MY CHANCE...
I BROUGHT YOU A GIFT.
I SEE THESE TWO ARE LOVERS


I'VE NEVER SEEN HER SO EXCITED
AH!
OH!
UH!
YES!
YES!
AH!
G-G-GREAT VIBRATOR! RRR RRR
BZZZZ
BZZZZZZ
AH, THIS IS THE TASTE OF WOMAN!!
SPOOGE

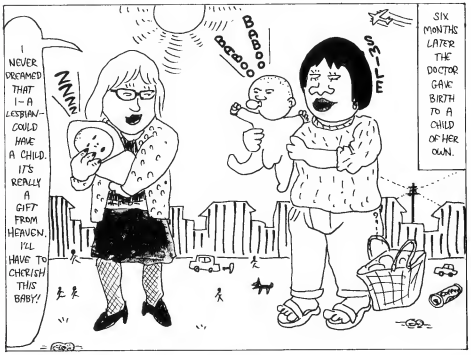

I HAVE ?
STICK
SPERM
WELL, MRS. SUZUKI, I SEE YOU'VE HAD INTERCOURSE AGAIN.
REMOVE YOUR PANTIES.
BRIEF
HELLO DOCTOR.
MEDICAL CHARTS
EXIT

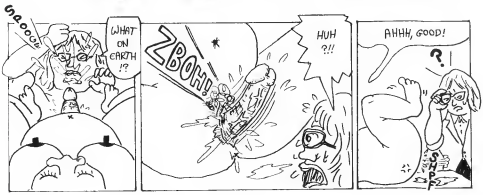
SOMETHING'S WRONG..
MISS CHIEF
BUT TRULY,
JUST A LITTLE IMPATIENCE. IT HASN'T BEEN EASY FOR ME EITHER.
I-I HAVEN'T HAD SEX!
I TOLD YOU NOT FOR THREE MONTHS— THIS IS THE RISKIEST TIME FOR MIS-CARRIAGE.

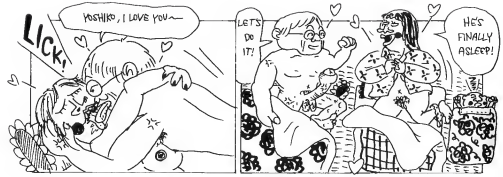

SPOOGE
SPOOGE
AAHH
HOW ABOUT A PICTURE FOR DAD-MAN!
COME HERE BIG BOOB
JERK
JERK
AAH!
NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT DEAR.
AHHH!
LISTEN HON, WE HAVEN'T MADE LOVE BUT THE DR. SAYS-
FETUS
SQUEEZE
BORED, TIME TO SQUEEZE IT.
HE'LL BE A HEALTHY BOY!
GUWER
GUWER
LOOK HON, IT MOVED!
WANNA GET BORN AND HAVE SEX!



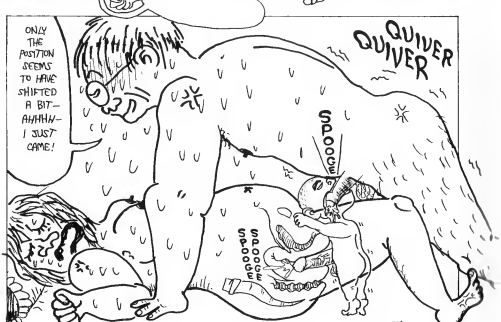
(SADAKICHI, NOW A FATHER AT SIX MONTHS OF AGE)


I NEVER DREAMED THAT I-A LESBIAN-COULD HAVE A CHILD. IT'S REALLY A GIFT FROM HEAVEN. I'LL HAVE TO CHERISH THIS BABY!
NNNN
Baaaoo
Baaaoo
SMILE
SIX MONTHS LATER THE DOCTOR GAVE BIRTH TO A CHILD OF HER OWN.



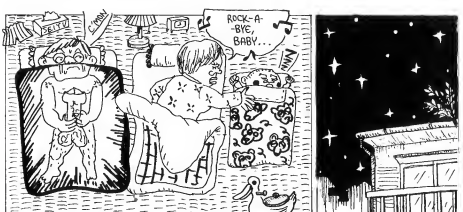


HMM, AFTER A WOMAN GIVES BIRTH IT'S USUALLY PRETTY LOOSE DOWN THERE, BUT IN YOUR CASE, IT GOT TIGHTER!
THRUST THRUST
CLICK
LICK!
YES MORE!



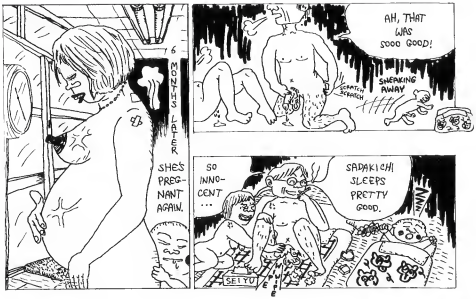
2ND. CHAPTER: JAPAN'S BEST BABY

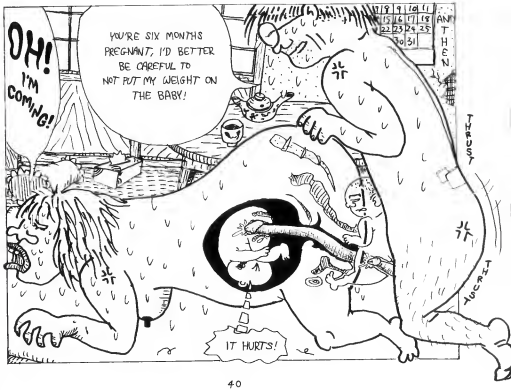
FINALE: SEX! SEX!! SEX!!!

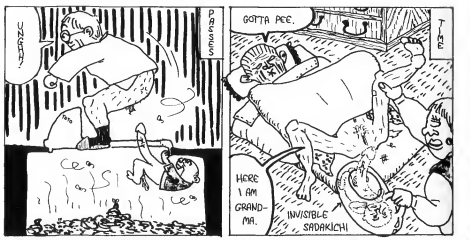


YES, DEAR.
BAGOO BAGOO
KEEP YOUR CHIN UP AND DELIVER A HEALTHY BABY.

WAAH! WAAH!
BY THIS TIME THE UNBORN CHILD WAS ALREADY THREE MONTHS PREGNANT.

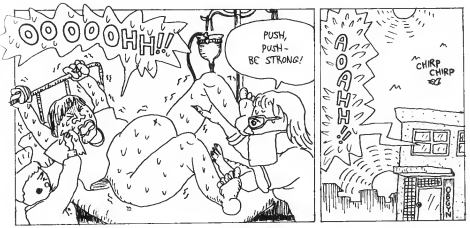

16 MONTHS LATER
SHE'S PREGNANT AGAIN.
AH, THAT WAS SOOO GOOD!
SCRATCH SCRATCH
SNEAKING AWAY
SO INNOCENT ...
SADAKICHI SLEEPS PRETTY GOOD.
SEIYU


OH! I'M COMING!
YOU'RE SIX MONTHS PREGNANT; I'D BETTER BE CAREFUL TO NOT PUT MY WEIGHT ON THE BABY!
AND THEN
THRUST
AUGH!
IT HURTS!

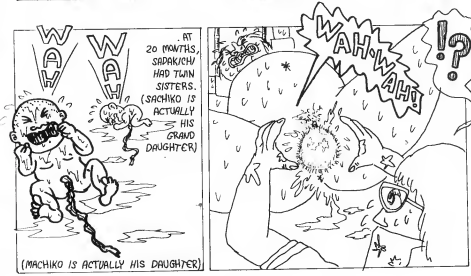

WARP!
DOORBELL
GOTTA PEE.
TEE
HERE I AM GRANDMA.
INVISIBLE SADAKICHI

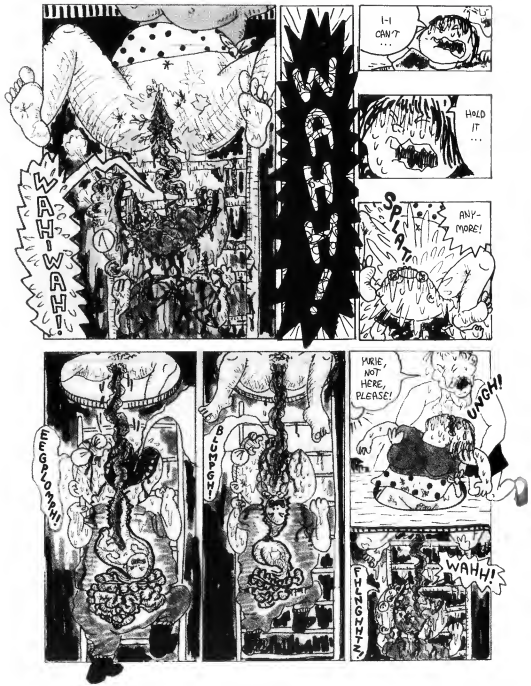
YOU NEED TWO SHOTS.
SPENDING HIS DAYS MASQUERADING AS AN OBSTETRICIAN, INDULGING IN EVERY POSSIBLE OUTRAGE.
WATCH OUT FOR CARS!
O.K. Mom!
SADAKICHI WAS NOW OLD ENOUGH FOR SCHOOL, YET HE CHOOSE TO PLAY HOOKY ....

PHONE!..
UNG!
ONE DAY...

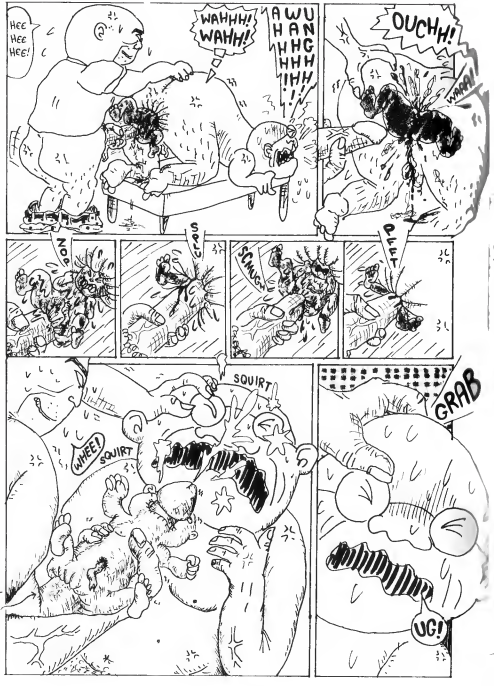

OOOOOHH!!
PUSH, PUSH- BE STRONG!
AAAH!
CHIRP CHIRP

WAHHH!!
WAS BORN BEFORE SHE WAS
THE UNBORN
WAH
BABY WAS SIMILARLY STIMULATED, AND HER UNBORN BABY
WAHHH!


WAH WAH
AT 20 MONTHS, SADAKICHI HAD TWIN SISTERS. (SACHIKO IS ACTUALLY HIS GRAND DAUGHTER)
WAHWAH!
!?
(MACHIKO IS ACTUALLY HIS DAUGHTER)

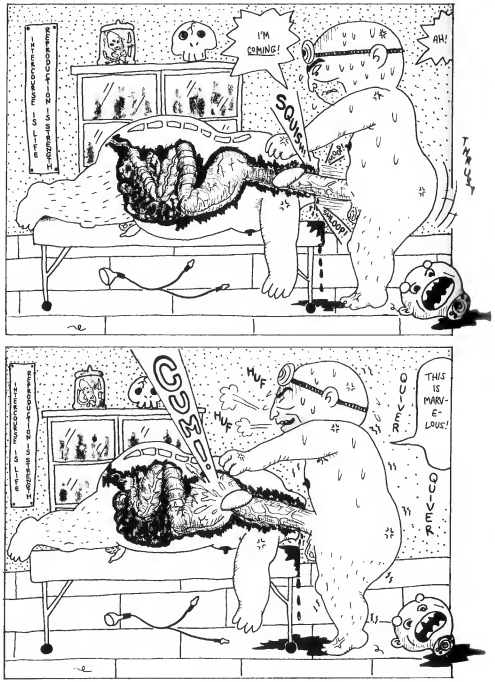

I-I CAN'T
HOLD IT ...
SPLAT!
ANY-MORE!
WAHH!
WAHHHHH!!
EEEGGOSH!
BLUNGH!
YURIE, NOT HERE, PLEASE!
UNGH!
WAHH!!
FHUNGNNN

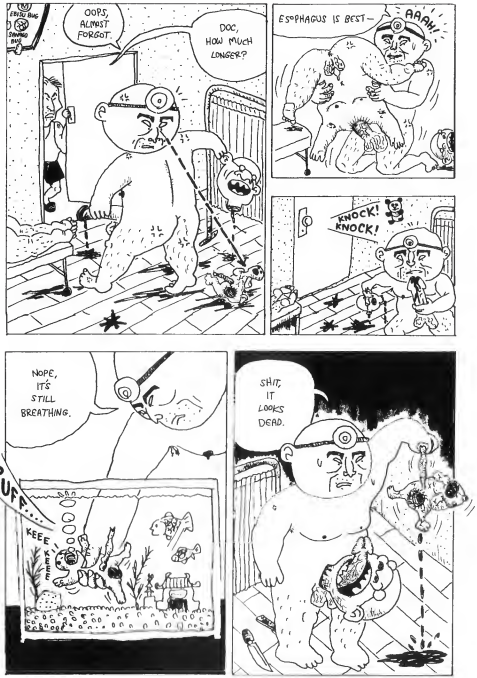
YURIE, BE STRONG!
OH! IT HURTS!
YURIE!
UNGH!
SHOOF
!?
PLOOP!
UNGHH!
ACK!
AS SOON AS WE GET ON THE BLVD.
IT HURTS!
WE CAN HAIL A CAB.
KARRR
DOOOR
DANGER!



AS SADAKICHI IS STILL A BOY, HE HAS NO HAIR.

YARGGHHH!!!
SEX ROGUE
LET'S DO THIS!
SOUNDS LIKE A ROUGH DELIVERY!
I ALWAYS WANTED TO..
DRIP
DRIP
HEE HEE HEE!
TRY THIS!
HUF
HUF
HUF
HUF


I'M COMING!
SQUISH
SQUISH
AH!
TAUT
CUM!
HUF
QUIVER
QUIVER
THIS IS MARVELOUS!


OOPS, ALMOST FORGOT.
DOC, HOW MUCH LONGER?
ESOPHAGUS IS BEST—
AAAH!
KNOCK! KNOCK!
NOPE. IT'S STILL BREATHING.
PUFF...
KEEE
SHIT. IT LOOKS DEAD.

STAB!
EMERG-ENCY MEAS-URES!
NO. 2
NO. 1
WAHH!
MOST EFFEC-TIVE.
A HEALTHY BABY GIRL.
WAHH-WAHHH!

AN INTERVIEW WITH TAKASHI NEMOTO

Dan Nadel, 2008

How do you explain the sudden burst of underground manga in the late 1970s and early '80s? Did you feel at home?

King Terry originated the style called *heta-uma* (*bad but good*). I think I'm the one who benefited the most from this. I'm actually *heta-heta*, but thanks to the space created by King Terry, I was recognized as *heta-uma*, which gave me a way into the scene. Some critics have already placed *heta-uma* as a moment in art history, but I think this is wrong. The *heta-uma* style is limited to the individual history of King Terry, and it's still too early to place it in a larger context. Those original *heta-uma* artists who rode in on the wave of the time have either disappeared or gone back to drawing in more traditional styles.

The problems concerning underground comics are issues of money and popular appeal—meaning the borders between what is acceptable and unacceptable, including drawing style and meaning itself. For me, it's not a big deal whether I'm underground or aboveground. Also, the early 1980s was nothing but a cross-point. Every field, including manga, the fine arts, music, drama, and film was heading in something of a *heta-uma* direction. Roughly speaking, that lasted about five years in the underground movement, which in a certain way was connected to *Garo*. The publication of *Jonetsu no Penguin Gohan* (released in the United States as *Penguin Tofu*), created by King Terry and Shigesato Itoi, was the equivalent of the emergence of the Sex Pistols in rock history.

In any case, I was more interested in participating specifically in *Garo* than I was in manga itself. However, I was struggling with a style. Then *Penguin Gohan* and *heta-uma* came along and showed me that this was an acceptable direction.

Who were your contemporaries?

Yoshikazu Ebisu, though he debuted in *Garo* a few years earlier, returned to the scene aided by the *heta-uma* boom. He still retains his *heta* skills due to his lack of motivation. And Suzy Amakane. He's an *uma* artist with *heta* flavor, and a true genius of drawing. But he works hard at his craft and goes in his own direction. To me, he is an exemplary artist.

What other influences do you account for in your work? Tell me a bit about the manga environment in which you created Monster Man. *What spurred you to create such a sustained work? Is manga still a fertile ground for such exploration?*

When I was twenty-nine or thirty years old I was drawing manga for a certain major magazine. The editors told me that I had a flair for injecting pathos into my work, but that I had to stop making erotic drawings. This bothered me and became the trigger for *Monster Man*. I gave myself three themes and drew about a hundred manga pages without having any idea how it would end. I was young and reckless and physically strong, and was by that time pretty experienced, so everything went well. I think the final pages of "Takeo's World," especially the last scene, are pretty successful. The other day I was reading a speech by the Dalai Lama and came across the Hindu mantra "Om Mani Padme Hum." The direct translation is "The truth is actually in the lotus," which I take to mean, "The truth is in the uterus as sperm." And although I drew this twenty years ago without being aware of that mantra, I think it perfectly expresses the meaning of the book.

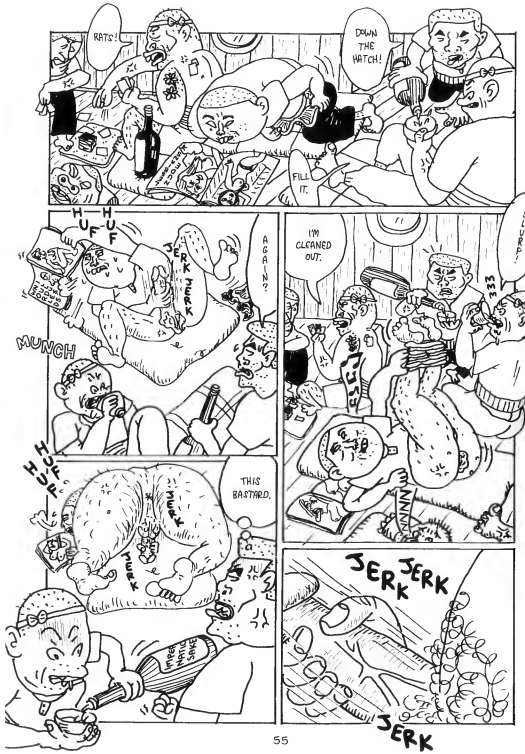
How was the book received at the time? And how has the perception of it changed over the years?

Two books, *Monster Man* (including "Takeo's World") and *Kame-no-Atama-no-Soup* (*Turtle Head Soup*, including "Mikuro-no Seishi") were published within six months of each other and were highly praised in Japan's three major newspapers and in other media outlets. However, the mainstream manga magazines kept their silence. As a result, seven years after my debut, and even after publishing what was considered a "great masterpiece," I stopped getting offers for work. Since then, I've become a nominal cartoonist and a jack-of-all-trades. By the way, I recently noticed that my composition methods for these big books was similar to the improvisatory style of *Rakugo* (a traditional Japanese comedy, where the comedian gets three themes from audience members and weaves a story in which, by its conclusion, all three themes have come together.)

How do you look back on Monster Man *almost twenty years later? Are you proud of it? What are its strengths? Its weaknesses?*

I have never been ashamed of my work. I think the most embarrassing thing would be to disown work you have done in the past. Essentially, there is no problem unless I die. If there is any weakness in *Monster Man*, it's that it was too well-made. Nobody would think that it was drawn off-the-cuff, without any knowledge of how it would end. However, those were the conditions, and I was always just one step away from disaster.

OUR HERO, TAKEO'S FATHER, SADAICHI, WAS WORKING ABOARD THE 5TH KAMETSURU-MARU, A FISHING BOAT....
SOMETIME IN THE 1920s. THE MIDDLE OF THE PACIFIC, NEAR AN ISLAND KNOWN AS HIGHLEG....
I'M STARVED!
GOOD!
MUNCH
GOT-CHA!
HUP!
HO!
OH, MY BELLY'S FULL!
GEN, WANNA CUP?

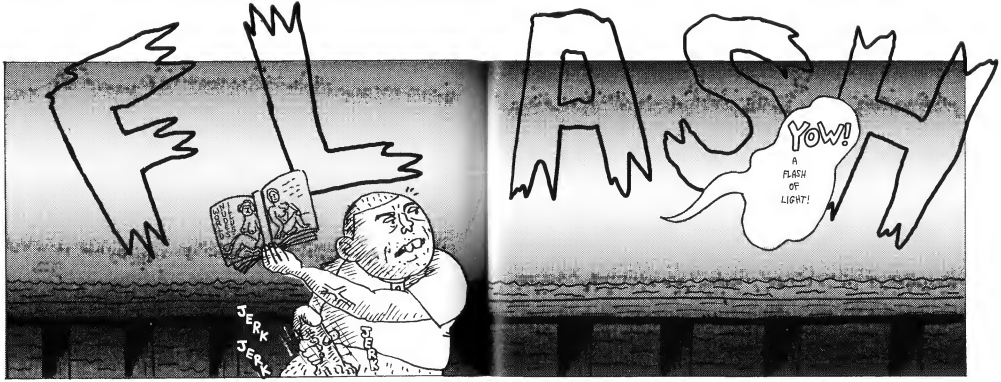

RATS!
DOWN THE HATCH!
FILL IT.
HUF HUF
AGAIN?
JERK JERK
MUNCH
I'M CLEANED OUT!
BURP
333
THIS BASTARD.
JERK JERK
JERK JERK
JERK

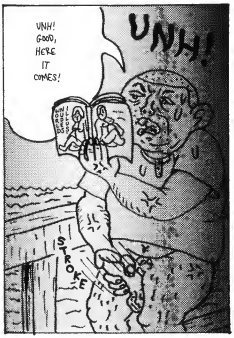
YOU DARE TOUCH IT, IT'S ON NOW, COCK SUCKER!
OUCH!
AND I'M TELLIN' YA NOBODY WANTS TO SEE YOUR DIRTY COCK!
THIS HERE'S MY PERSONAL TOY— HELL, I AIN'T CRUSIN' NO TROUBLE.
DOOF!
SMACK!
HA!
AIEE!
THUD!
OUCH!
SHIT!
TAKE THAT!
BAM
DRAW BLOOD!
YOUR ASS IS MINE!

GRAB
HEY! HEY!
PLOP
I CAN'T STAND ANY MORE OF THIS!
SER-SERK
LIKE YOU NEVER WHACK OFF!
HUH? WHA?
NIGHT AFTER NIGHT! CAN'T YOU JUST KEEP IT IN YOUR PANTS?!?
THAT AIN'T THE POINT!
SQUEEZE
WE GOTTA SEE THIS EVERY NIGHT— WE'RE ALL SICK OF IT!!
SO?
EVERY CHANCE YOU GET YOU'RE JERKING OFF!

CREEK
CREEK
THUD
THUD
THIRTY SECONDS — GOGGLES READY — REMEMBER, DON'T LOOK DIRECTLY INTO THE LIGHT!
BUZZZ...
SOUND OF A CROWD
BUZZZ...
6-5-4-3...
AT THAT MOMENT...
NOW I CAN'T SEE A THING. I WAS JUST GETTIN TO THE BEST PART!
JERK
JERK
JERK
SLAM
DAMN IT!
FUCKERS SHUT OFF THE LIGHT!
JERK
JERK

HEHEH
IT'S GETTIN' GOOD.
UH OH.
NNNN
STRAIGHT TO HELL!
DASH!
HE'S RIGHT, NOBODY WANTS TO WATCH YOU JERKIN' OFF!
KRACK!
OOOH!
CUT IT OUT YOU LITTLE PUNK!
UGH!
I DON'T GET WHAT THE BIG DEAL IS.
FUGGIN' SCUM!
IF YOU GOTTA DO IT, THEN DO IT OUTSIDE!
SIDE SHOW
JUST MASTURBATIN'!

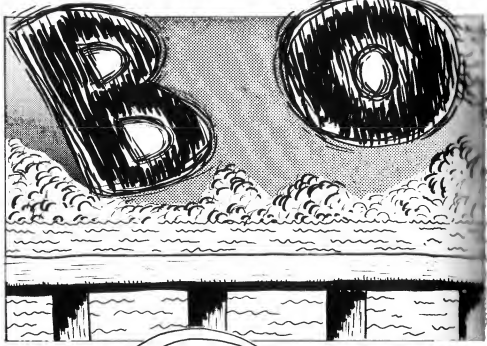

FLASH
JERK JERK
Yow!
A FLASH OF LIGHT!

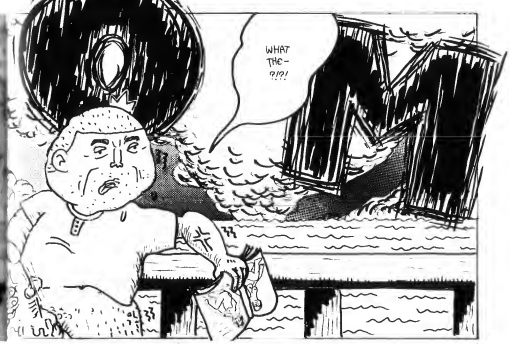

UNH!
UNH! GOOD, HERE IT COMES!
STROKE

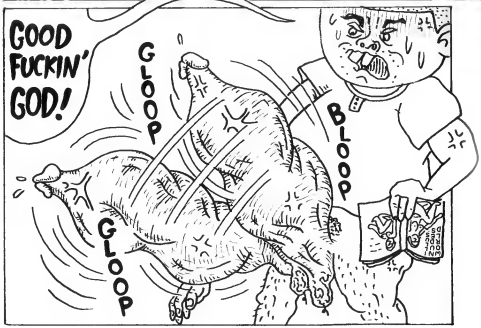
HUF!
HUF!
JERK
JERK
JERK

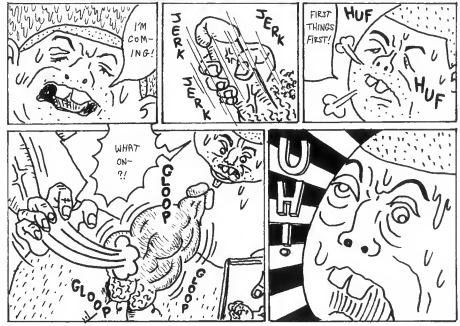
WHO GIVES A FUCK? AT LEAST NOW I CAN CHECK THESE TITTIES!
JERK

WHAT THE HELL'S GOIN' ON? LIGHTNING STORM?

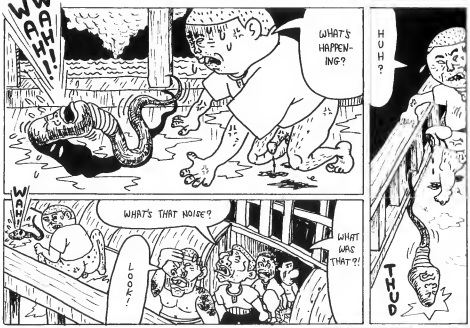

BO


BM
WHAT THE-?!?!

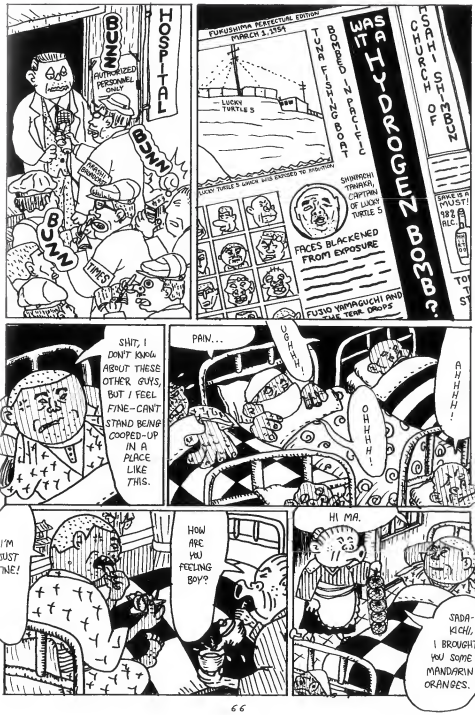

GOOD FUCKIN' GOD!
GLOOP
GLOOP
BLOOP


I'M COM-ING!
JERK
JERK
JERK
FIRST THINGS FIRST!
HUF
HUF
WHAT ON-?!
GLOOP
GLOOP
GLOOP
UH!

WAH!
UGH!

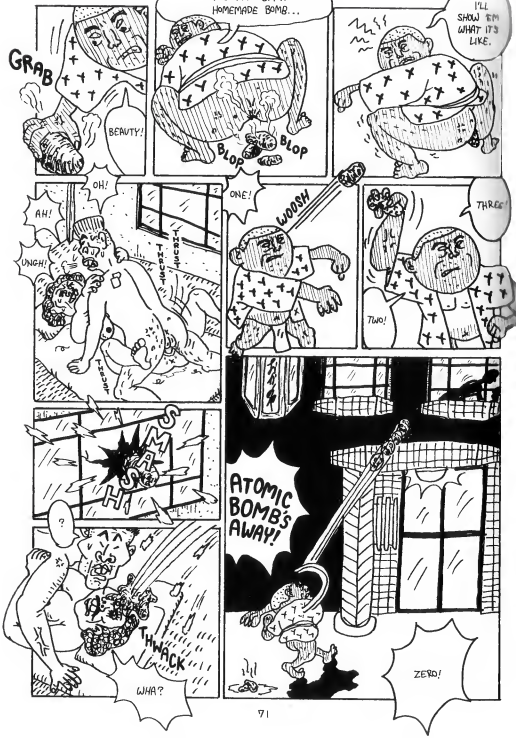

WAH!!
WHAT'S HAPPENING?
HUH?
THUD
WAH!
WHAT'S THAT NOISE?
WHAT WAS THAT?!
LOOK!

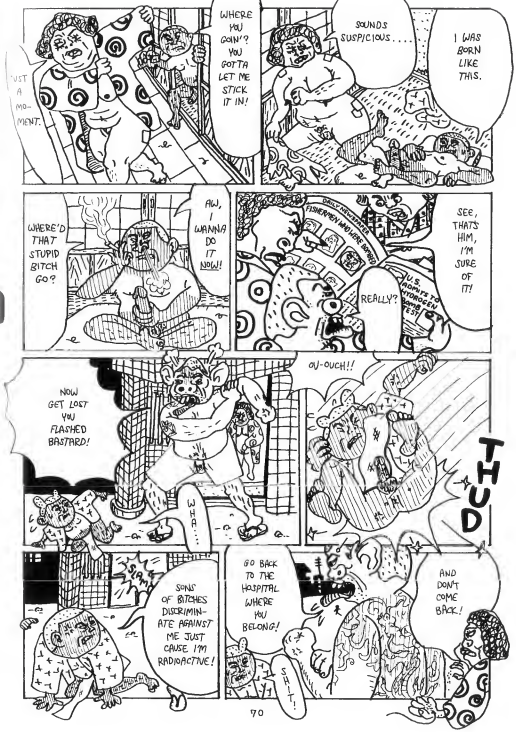
NO- THIS IS ASH!
NOW ITS SNOWING!
NO, IT'S SMOKE!
AN ENORMOUS CLOUD


HOSPITAL
AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY
BUNN
BUNN
BUNN
TIMES
FUKUSHIMA PREFECTURAL EDITION
MARCH 3, 1954
TUNA FISHING BOAT
BOMBED IN PACIFIC
LUCKY TURTLE 5
LUCKY TURTLE 5 WHILE WAS EXPOSED TO RADIATION
SHINPACHI TANAKA, CAPTAIN OF LUCKY TURTLE 5
FACES BLACKENED FROM EXPOSURE
FUJIO YAMAGUCHI AND TAKE TEIKI CREWS
WAS A HYDROGEN BOMB?
CHURCH OF
ESAHI SHIMBUN
SHIT, I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THESE OTHER GUYS, BUT I FEEL FINE- CAN'T STAND BEING COOPED-UP IN A PLACE LIKE THIS.
UGHHH
PAIN...
AHHHH!
OHHHH
I'M JUST FINE!
HOW ARE YOU FEELING BOY?
HI MA.
SADA-KICHI, I BROUGHT YOU SOME MANDARIN ORANGES.

YES, STILL KICK-ING.
YOU MEAN THAT BIG TADPOLE?
?
BY THE WAY, MA, IS IT STILL ALIVE?
AGAIN?
WHEN I PUT IT IN A BOWL, IT JUMPS RIGHT OUT.
SLASH
BUT THOSE OCEAN TADPOLES SEEM VERY DIFFERENT FROM THE KIND WE CATCH IN THE RIVER... SO BIG TOO.
SLOSH
AND I FOUND IT WITH POOCHIE'S PUPPIES DRINK-ING MILK.
WHA?
ONE DAY IT DIS-APPEARED...
AND IT WON'T EAT ANY FLIES.
WAH! WAH! WAH!
THE TAD-POLE CRIES JUST LIKE A HUMAN BABY. I'M SPOOKED!
AND THERE'S ANOTHER THING.
WHAT'S THAT?

HO HO HO HO!
BZZZ
BZZZ
TO TAKE A SHIT...
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
HEE HEE HEE....
NOTHING A MAN CAN'T DO WHEN POONTANG'S ON HIS MIND.
WHY?
YOU LOOK ALL BURNED UP. MAYBE YOU WERE ON THAT RADIOACTIVE BOAT - I'M AFRAID I HAVE TO SAY NO.
HOW COME YOUR CHEST IS LIGHTER THAN THE REST OF YOU?
HUH?
DON'T WORRY, I WAS BORN WITH DARK SKIN.
I DON'T WANT TO GET CONTAMINATED.
WELL, IF IT IS A TADPOLE, I GUESS IT BECOMES A FROG.
TADPA!
IMAGINE WHEN IT BECOMES A FROG - IT'S FRIGHTENING!
EEEK!
TAKE CARE, SON.
I WONDER IF IT'S SOME KIND OF PARASITE?
WAAH!
BUT IT ACTUALLY POPPED OUT OF MY DICK! FROM INSIDE ME...
I TOLD MA THAT I FISHED IT OUT OF THE SEA....
UNGH!
LAKESIDE NUDES IN TABATA
BY THE WAY...
THE SOONER WE GET RID OF THAT THING THE BETTER!
I'M SICK OF IT!
SHIT!
SPAH!
I AIN'T EVEN ON THE BOAT ANYMORE!
WHY AM I STILL SPANKING IT EVERYDAY?
SCHWING
REAL SEX LIVES
FULL LENGTH REPORT ON REAL SEX LIVES
REAL SEX LIVES


GRAB
BEAUTY!
I'LL TOSS 'EM A HOMEMADE BOMB...
BLOP
BLOP
I'LL SHOW 'EM WHAT IT'S LIKE.
AH!
OH!
UNGH!
ONE!
WOOSH
TWO!
THREE!
ATOMIC BOMBS AWAY!
ZERO!
WHA?
THWACK

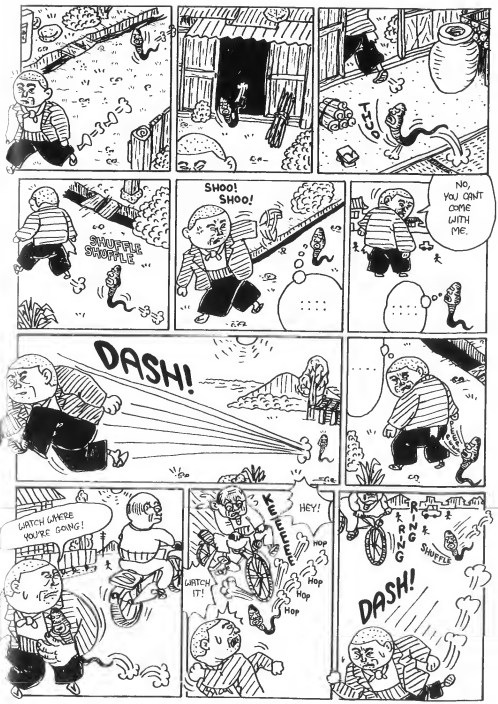

JUST A MO-MENT
WHERE YOU GOIN'? YOU GOTTA LET ME STICK IT IN!
SOUNDS SUSPICIOUS....
I WAS BORN LIKE THIS.
WHERE'D THAT STUPID BITCH GO?
AW, I WANNA DO IT NOW!!
REALLY?
SEE, THAT'S HIM, I'M SURE OF IT!
NOW GET LOST YA FLASHED BASTARD!
OU-OUCH!!
THUD
WHA...
SONS OF BITCHES DISCRIMINATE AGAINST ME JUST CAUSE I'M RADIOACTIVE!
GO BACK TO THE HOSPITAL WHERE YOU BELONG!
AND DON'T COME BACK!

UGH!
HUH?
LA DI DA
DASH
AH, NOTHING FINER THAN A FORCED FUCK!
QUIVER
AHHHHH!
HAW!
BAM
NO!
BE QUIET AND YOU'LL LIVE!
HA, HA- SORRY TO LEAVE YOU GUYS.
WE'LL SEE YA.
SADAKICHI AND SOME OF THE OTHERS GET AN EARLY RELEASE FROM THE HOSPITAL.
HOSPITAL
ONE MONTH LATER...
COME BACK WHEN IT'S ALL CLEARED UP.
PLEASE!
LEAVE ME ALONE OR I'LL CALL A COP!
I'LL PAY DOUBLE!
IT'S OBVIOUS YOU'RE A MEMBER OF THAT CREW THAT GOT FLASHED - I CAN'T TAKE YOU.
SHIT.
I GUESS I GOT NO CHOICE.
FART SHOT
SHIT, I WON'T GO BACK TO THAT HOSPITAL WITHOUT A FUCK FOR MY TROUBLES.
GOOD, SHE'S GOING INTO THE WOODS.
SHE MUST BE FRESH AND TIGHT!
SNEAKING UP
SHUFFLE SHUFFLE
HEE, HEE- A MODERN BEAUTY!

QUIET, WANNA DIE?!
UGH!
HELP!
WHERE YOU OFF TO?
JUST TAKIN' A WALK.
THIS IS BAD!
PUSS
OH NO, MY DICK DON'T LOOK SO GOOD.
OUCH
BETTER DO SOME-THING.
BETTER SEE A DOCTOR.
...MAYBE SHE HAD THE CLAP.
EWW!
HMM, THAT LAST BITCH I RAPED HAD A PRETTY STINKY PUSSY
NO!

GOO GOO GA GA
WOW, IT'S REALLY GETTING BIG.
LOOK!
GOO GOO
LOOK, IT JUMPED ON YOUR LAP.
ONE MORE BOWL.
BZZZZ
SLITHER
SLITHER
BZZZ
WOW!
LOOK, IT'S FOLLOW-ING YOU!
ALL FULL, TIME TO TAKE A SHIT.
BABOO
BZZZZ
GEE, ITS KIND OF A CUTE THING.
HEY, WHAT'S UP?

THEN IT AIN'T THE CLAP.
YOU SUFFERED SEVERE BURNS- THESE BLISTERS ARE A NATURAL DEVELOPMENT.
HOSPITAL
YOU GOTTA BE QUIET.
ALRIGHT YOU CAN COME, BUT
BY THE WAY, IT'S RARE TO SEE BURNS ON THAT PART OF THE BODY...
O.K., OK. WE'RE GOING HOME NOW.
...WHAT IN THE WORLD WERE YOU DOING AT THE TIME OF THE BLAST?
HEE HEE HEE!
NO, NO, THIS IS NO TADPOLE. IT SOUNDS CRAZY, BUT I'M ALMOST CERTAIN...
WOW, WHAT A BIG TAD-POLE!
OH MY!
WHAT IS THIS STRANGE CREATURE?
OH THIS?

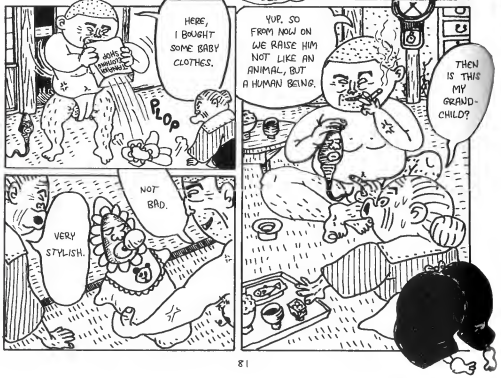

SHUFFLE SHUFFLE
SHOO! SHOO!
NO, YOU CAN'T COME WITH ME.
DASH!
WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING!
HEY!
WATCH IT!
HOP
HOP
HOP
RING RING
SWEEP
DASH!

SO, THIS IS WHAT YOU CALL A SPERM?
NOT QUITE: A SPERM IS SO TINY IT CAN'T BE SEEN WITH THE NAKED EYE.
I SEE- BUT I TELL YA, THIS THING REALLY DID POP OUT OF MY DICK.
PARASITES THRIVE IN THE INTESTINE. IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR THEM TO RUN AROUND OUTSIDE LIKE THIS ONE.
BABOO
BABOO
HOP
HOP
OH.
IS THAT TRUE?
YEAH, I'FAID SO.
WHAT? YOU SAY THIS THING CAME FROM YOUR PENIS?!
SNIFF
I WONDER WHAT CAN IT BE?
BOOM
BLAH, BLAH, BLAH, ETC.
GOOD LORD ?!!
WHEN? WHERE?
WELL, UH, TELL YA THE TRUTH....

YOU KNOW, IT'S WHAT'S SWIMMING INSIDE YOUR TESTICLES. LET'S CALL IT A BABY SEED.
BABY SEED?
HM MM...
IT'S A SPERM.
SPERM? WHAT'S THAT?
NO, NO.
DOC, YOU MEAN IT'S A STOMACH WORM? SOME KIND OF PARASITE?
BUT.....
WAH
UHH!
BABY SEED? FROM MY PRICK ?

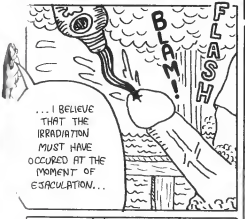
SO, IN OTHER WORDS, THIS IS MY SON?
DADA
DADA
GRRRR
... RESULTING IN GIGANTISM OF THE SPERM.

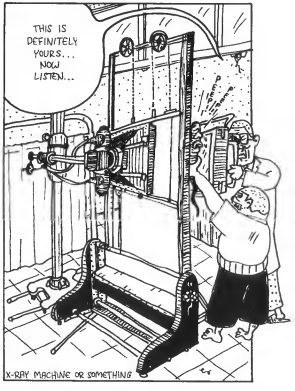
WHAT AN AMAZING TALE!
OH MY
THAT'S THE WHOLE STORY, MA!

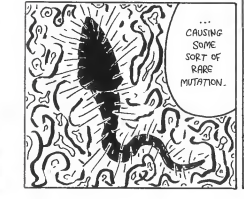

HERE, I BOUGHT SOME BABY CLOTHES.
PLOP
YUP. SO FROM NOW ON WE RAISE HIM NOT LIKE AN ANIMAL, BUT A HUMAN BEING.
THEN IS THIS MY GRAND-CHILD?
NOT BAD.
VERY STYLISH.

JEEPERS.
THIS CREATURE IS YOUR SPERM. NOTHING BUT A SPERM.

THANKS!
PAPER
HMMM... YES, YES....
SNIFF SNIFF


FLASH
BLAM!
... I BELIEVE THAT THE IRRADIATION MUST HAVE OCCURED AT THE MOMENT OF EJACULATION...


THIS IS DEFINITELY YOURS... NOW LISTEN...
X-RAY MACHINE OR SOMETHING

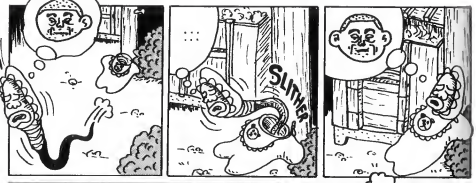

... CAUSING SOME SORT OF RARE MUTATION.

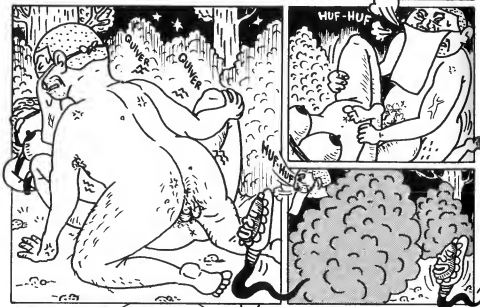
COME TO PAPA.
TAKEO
CREEK
THE DOOR WAS OPEN
THIS KID IS AWFUL SWEET.
SLEEP WITH DADDY.
YOUR BOY?
THAT'S RIGHT.
B A R
...WHEN DID YOU GET MARRIED?
HEH, HEH, WELL...
WHAT?

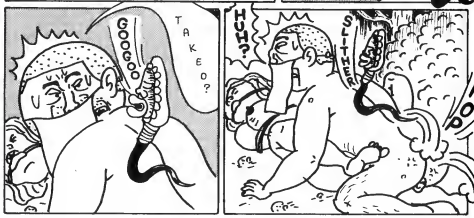
AH, THAT'S FINE.
HOW 'BOUT "TAKEO"?
THEN WE HAVE TO GIVE HIM A NAME - NOT "POOCH", THAT'S A DOG'S NAME.
TOMORROW I'M GOING TO CITY HALL TO GET HIM A BIRTH CERTIFICATE.
WHERE YOU OFF TO?
I GOT A MEETING.
TAKEO.
GAGA
TAKEO.
BYE
WELL, GOODNIGHT.
B A R
B A R
WANNA DIE?
BE QUIET!
H E L P !

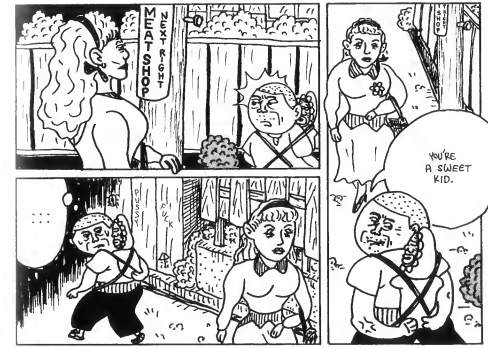
KEEP YOUR HANDS OFF MY MOM!
BITCH!
WHAT'D YOU SAY, BITCH?!
BAM
WAH!
HEC
TAKE THAT!
BAM
YOU CALLED MY BABY A MONSTER ?!!!
CHOKE
DIE, ASS-HOLE!
CRASH!
BAM
WAH
O.K., O.K., GOOD BOY.
BOOO BABOO! BABOO!
I'M NOT GONNA LET NOTHING HAPPEN TO YOU, KID.
TAKEO

WAH! WAH! WAH!
HO-BOY! THIS KID'S REALLY CRYING!
THINK IT'S DIAPER TIME.
LOOK, THIS KID HAS QUITE A POINTY HEAD.
HI'S NAME IS TAKEO.
WAH! WAH! WAH!
ALL RIGHT AL-READY.
WE'LL FIX YOU RIGHT UP!
O.K! O.K!
I'LL CHANGE HIM FOR YOU.
WHAT'S THE MATTER, MA?
M-M-MONSTER!
GASP!
WAH! WAH! WAH!
WHAT THE?
WAH! WAH! WAH!

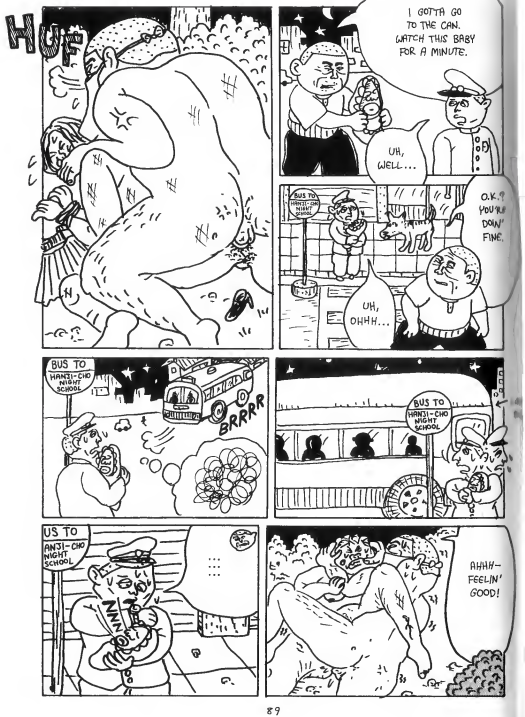

3&2
3&2
SLITHER


OUIVER
OUIVER
HUF-HUF
HUF-HUF


TAKE O?
GOOGOO
HUMP
SLITHER
DOT


MEAT SHOP
NEXT RIGHT
YOU'RE A SWEET KID.

HUF
HUF
TAKE O
DON'T GO ANYWHERE-- I'LL BE RIGHT BACK.
SLITHER


HUFF
I GOTTA GO TO THE CAN. WATCH THIS BABY FOR A MINUTE.
UH, WELL...
BUS TO HANSI-CHO NIGHT SCHOOL
O.K.? YOU'LL DOIN' FINE.
UH, OHHH...
BUS TO HANSI-CHO NIGHT SCHOOL
BRRRR
BUS TO HANSI-CHO NIGHT SCHOOL
BUS TO HANSI-CHO NIGHT SCHOOL
ZZZZ
AHHH- FEELIN' GOOD!

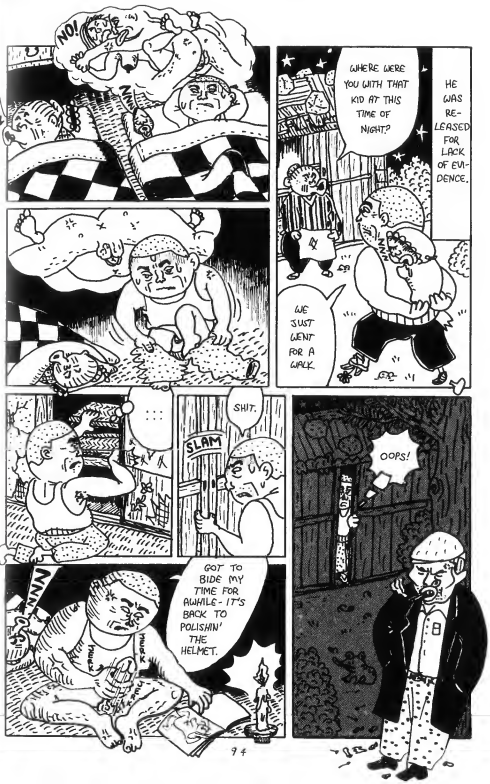
MMM, GOOD BOY.
DADA
GAGA
I JUS' LIKE TO WALK AROUND.
WHERE MUST YOU GO SO LATE EVERY NIGHT?
CREEK
NEXT NIGHT
YEAH, O.K.
YOU'D BETTER TAKE HIM WITH YOU.
TAKEO DOESN'T WANT TO GO TO TO SLEEP.
HEY, YOU, STU-DENT.
HANSI-CHO NIGHT SCHOO
BUS TO HANSI-CHO NIGHT SCHOOL

HANJI CITY POLICE DEPT.
SPECIAL INVESTIGATION INTO SERIAL RAPIST
SERIAL RAPIST STRIKES
ASAHI SHIMBUN
CHURCH OF
ANOTHER WOMAN WAS BRUTALLY RAPED IN HANJI CITY LAST LAST NIGHT, THE TWENTY-FOURTH VICTIM OF THE SERIAL RAPIST. THE CRIME TOOK PLACE IN A WOODED AREA AT THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE OLD INDUSTRIAL cont. P27
SCENE OF LAST NIGHT'S CRIME
MISS "A," THE VICTIM, IS A 26-YEAR-OLD WAITRESS.
AREA WOMEN AFRAID
TODAY'S TOP STORIES
THAT THE PERP LOOKS LIKE THIS.
BBNN
A NUMBER OF THE VICTIMS CLAIM THAT THE RAPIST WAS ACCOMPANIED BY A SNAKE.
A SNAKE?
BASED ON THE ACCUMULATED TESTIMONY WE HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE...

THE BASTARD DISAPPEARED. WHERE'D HE GO WITH MY PRECIOUS KID?
GONE...
OH MAN, LOOK AT THE TIME.
HEY, COPPER!!
POLICE STATION
COULD IT BE A KIDNAPING?!
BASTARD! FOOL! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!!
UH-UH
AH?!
COP

BUZZ BUZZ
IT'S GOTTA BE HIM!
HEY, THIS LOOKS LIKE—
WANT
BUZZ
BUZZ
BUZZ
HE CAN'T GO A DAY WITHOUT A WOMAN.
PHONE
BELIEVE ME, THIS GUY'S A REAL PERV.
VOTE
YEAH, THAT'S HIM. I TOLD HIM TO COME BACK WHEN HE WAS CURED.
YOU MEAN THAT GUY WHO WAS FLASHED BY THE BOMB? WE KICKED HIS ASS OUT. EVERY PLACE IN TOWN REFUSED HIM.
SADA-KICHI WAS PICKED UP BY THE POLICE IN NO TIME, IT BEING A SMALL TOWN.
YEAH, HE WAS WITH A THING LIKE THAT. HE CALLED IT HIS KID!
A SNAKE ?
B A R

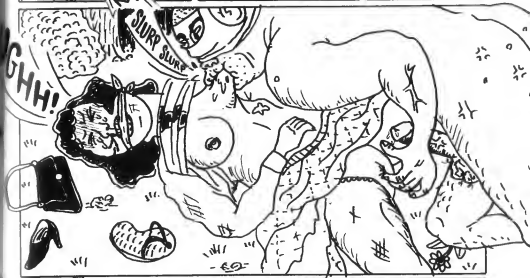
DADA
THIS LOOKS LIKE OUR MAN.
BABOO BABOO
TABOO, YOU CUTIE LOVEY BABY!
GOTTA BE HIM...
YOU'RE THE RAPIST— ADMIT IT!
SADA-KICHI SUZUKI?
SAY WHAT ?
BABOO BABOO
WILL YOU PLEASE COME WITH US?
HUNGRY? WE'LL GO HOME SOON AND GET YOU SOME MILK.
AL-RIGHT LITTLE ONE...
DADA
DUNNO WHAT YOU'RE TALK-ING ABOUT.

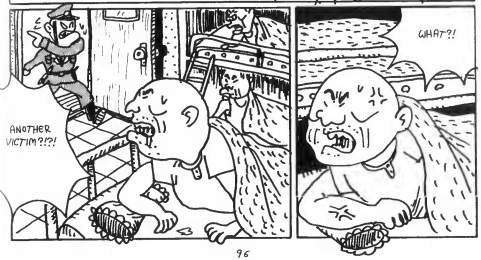

NO!
WHERE WERE YOU WITH THAT KID AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT?
HE WAS RELEASED FOR LACK OF EVIDENCE.
WE JUST WENT FOR A WALK.
SHIT.
SLAM
OOPS!
GOT TO BIDE MY TIME FOR AWHILE - IT'S BACK TO POLISHIN' THE HELMET.

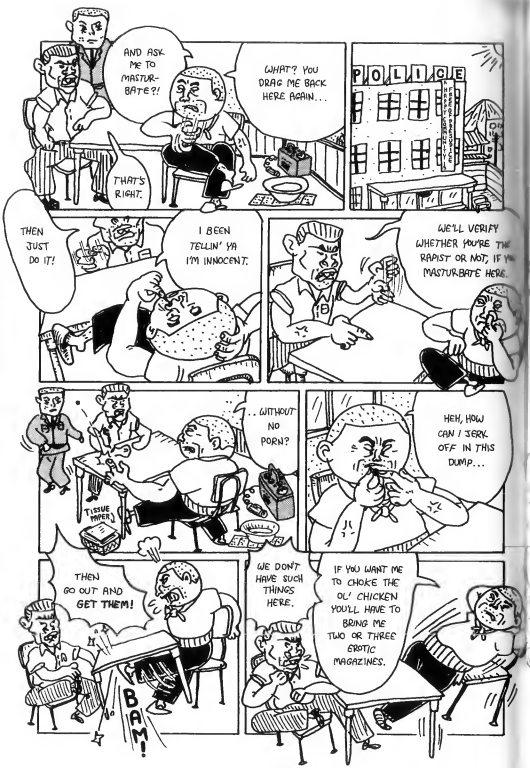
JERK JERK JERK
WHOO! YOU!
STOP
I CAN'T STAND IT NO MORE!
TA DEATH

RAPE CASE UNIT HQ
HMM
YOU FIND ANYTHING THAT PLACES HIM AT THE SCENE?
WANTED
IT STANDS TO REASON...
RADIATION METER
BOOM
SAY, THAT BASTARD WAS IRRADIATED, WASN'T HE?
LADY, JUST BE STILL A MINUTE.
NO!
RADIATION METER

ST-
STOP!
NO!


SLURP SLURP
GHH!


ANOTHER VICTIM?!?!
WHAT?!


AND ASK ME TO MASTUR-BATE?!
THAT'S RIGHT.
WHAT? YOU DRAG ME BACK HERE AGAIN...
POLICE
THEN JUST DO IT!
I BEEN TELLIN' YA I'M INNOCENT.
WE'LL VERIFY WHETHER YOU'RE THE RAPIST OR NOT, IF YOU MASTURBATE HERE.
TISSUE PAPER
. WITHOUT NO PORN?
HEH, HOW CAN I JERK OFF IN THIS DUMP...
THEN GO OUT AND GET THEM!
BAM!
WE DON'T HAVE SUCH THINGS HERE.
IF YOU WANT ME TO CHOKE THE OL' CHICKEN YOU'LL HAVE TO BRING ME TWO OR THREE EROTIC MAGAZINES.

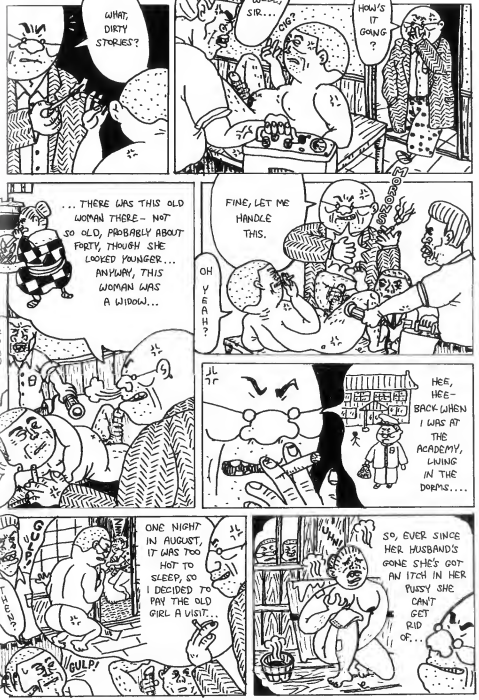
UGH!
SPLURP!
AGGH!
YES.
RADIATION METER
BZZ KRRR ZZZ KRRR
BZNZNZ
BZNZNZ

UH
SATAKE, DO WHAT HE SAYS— IT'S YOUR JOB.
WHA—?
WHY DON'TCHA GIVE ME A HAND.
YOUNG ROMANCE
YOUNG ROMANCE
VIRGIN PAN SERVICE
VIRGIN PAN SERVICE
SHROOM
SHROOM
AH, BETTER.
HEY YOU, WHAT KIND OF PRISSY WAY IS THAT TO FLOG IT? DON'T YOU KNOW HOW TO SACK OFF
HERE— NOW QUICK!
INFCUK
THERE'S NOTHIN' LEFT THAT TURNS ME ON.
AW, THIS BOOK— I GOT THIS ONE.
¥500
HEY, YOU.
THEN I'LL DO IT.
WHAT'D YOU SAY?
... GIVE ME ONE.
LISTEN— I HEARD YOU BEEN HIRING SOME WOMEN COPS....
HEY, HOW 'BOUT YOU, KID? YOU AIN'T BAD LOOKIN'!
THIS IS BOR-ING.
FOR HALF A DAY THEY TRIED TO GET HIM TO MAS-TUR-BATE.

WHORES DON'T ALWAYS LIKE TO GO DOWN.
OH?
MY WIFE GIVES BETTER HEAD THAN MOST HOOKERS.
OH YEAH?
AND THEN?
HALF HOUR LATER
SO, ANYWAY, MY WIFE SUCKS ME OFF PRETTY GOOD.
SO YOU REALLY CAN'T EXPECT THEM TO BE PARTICULARLY GOOD AT BLOW JOBS.
RIGHT.
HOW DARE YOU!
YOUR STORY NEVER STARTS JUMPIN' - YOUR LOUSY SEX LIFE LEAVES ME COLD.
STROKE
STROKE
STROKE

STROKE
TELL ME SOME DIRTY STORIES.
WHAT ?!
MAKE 'EM FILTHY.
IF YOUR STORIES EXCITE ME, IT'LL GET THE JUICES FLOWIN'.
STROKE
HEY, OFFICER.
YEAH ?
I WANNA HEAR ABOUT YOUR SEX LIFE AT HOME...
GLARE
UH HUH.
WE MAKE LOVE FOUR TIMES A WEEK.
SHIT...
THIS, TOO, IS MY JOB...

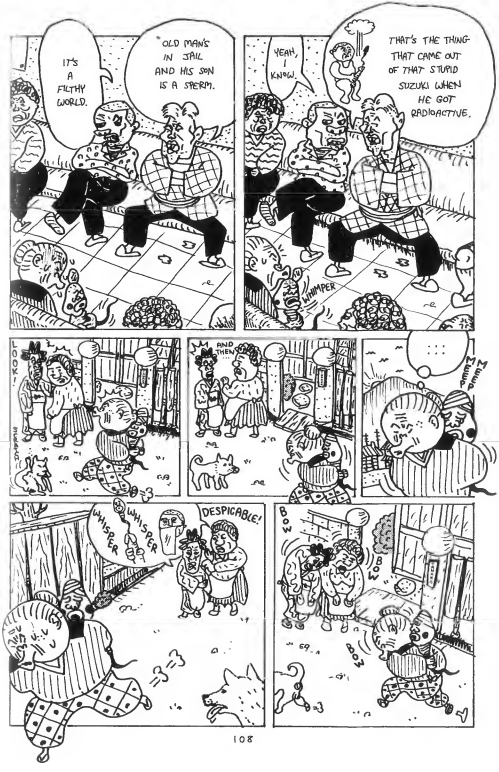
... SO THE OLD BROAD STARTS SUCK-ING ME OFF.
I FUCKED SIX TIMES OR SO- BY THEN MY PRICK'S GETTING A LITTLE TIRED...
MUNCH MUNCH
AT FIRST SHE HAD HER PRIDE, DON'TCHA KNOW... ....AND SHE REFUSED ME..."NO, STOP,' THAT SORTA THING
HEE HEE HEE
BUT WHEN I STUCK MY FINGERS DOWN THERE SHE WAS ALREADY WET!
HEE HEE HEE
SCHWAG!
AND MY COCK'S GETTING BIGGER AND BIGGER.
MUNK MUNK MUNK
OH! YOU'RE SO BIG!
MY DICK GOT HARD RIGHT AWAY- SHE GRABBED IT AND ....
...PUT IT INSIDE HER, AND GOT ON TOP. I WAS YOUNG, YOU KNOW, SO WITHOUT TAKING IT OUT ONCE...
AH!
AH!
SMACK


WHAT, DIRTY STORIES?
WELL, SIR...
DOG
HOW'S IT GOING?
... THERE WAS THIS OLD WOMAN THERE- NOT SO OLD, PROBABLY ABOUT FORTY, THOUGH SHE LOOKED YOUNGER... ANYWAY, THIS WOMAN WAS A WIDOW...
FINE, LET ME HANDLE THIS.
OH YEAH?
SO...
HEE, HEE- BACK WHEN I WAS AT THE ACADEMY, LIVING IN THE DORMS....
ONE NIGHT IN AUGUST, IT WAS TOO HOT TO SLEEP, SO I DECIDED TO PAY THE OLD GIRL A VISIT...
GULP!
SO, EVER SINCE HER HUSBAND'S GONE SHE'S GOT AN ITCH IN HER PUSSY SHE CAN'T GET RID OF...

5 FROM THAT DAY ON THE STORM DOOR WAS CLOSED.
THUD
UGH!
EH?
CRASH
DON'T CRY TAKEO.
RAPIST! GET OUT OF TOWN!
LOOK WHAT YOU DID!
WHIMPER
CLINIC

OH! OH, HARDER! FUCK ME! OOH! THAT'S IT! OH! YES! YES!
MASTER STORYTELLER, LT. SAKICHI YOSHIDA, CAN, BY THIS TIME, MAKING EVERYBODY HOT AND READY.
SCHWING
THAT WAS FIVE. NOW FOR SIX...
SO THEN WE DID IT DOGGY STYLE EIGHT TIMES...
HEE HEE HEE
THRUST
JERK JERK
OHH OH!
UGNN! DEEPER! YES! FASTER! FUCK ME!
FUCK ME!
FASTER!
YES! RADIOACTIVITY!
SAKICHI SUZUKI: YOU'RE UNDER ARREST FOR SERIAL RAPE!
HE'S COMING!
OHHH!

I GUESS.
THE NEIGHBORS ARE SAYING HORRIBLE THINGS ABOUT US. CAN YOU IMAGINE WHAT WE'RE GOING THROUGH?!
LIKE HELL YOU DO!
UH...
NASTY LOOK
WHISPER WHISPER
SOB SOB
...BUT WE DON'T HARDLY EVER SEE EACH OTHER. CAN'T YOU TRY TO BE IN A BETTER MOOD WHEN YOU COME HERE?
HEY, I FEEL LOUSY ABOUT IT TOO, MOM...


IT'S A FILTHY WORLD.
OLD MAN'S IN JAIL AND HIS SON IS A STERM.
YEAH, I KNOW.
THAT'S THE THING THAT CAME OUT OF THAT STUPID SUZUKI WHEN HE GOT RADIOACTIVE.
WHIMPER
KOOT
AND THEN...
I DUNNO
WHISPER WHISPER
DESPICABLE!
BOO
BOO

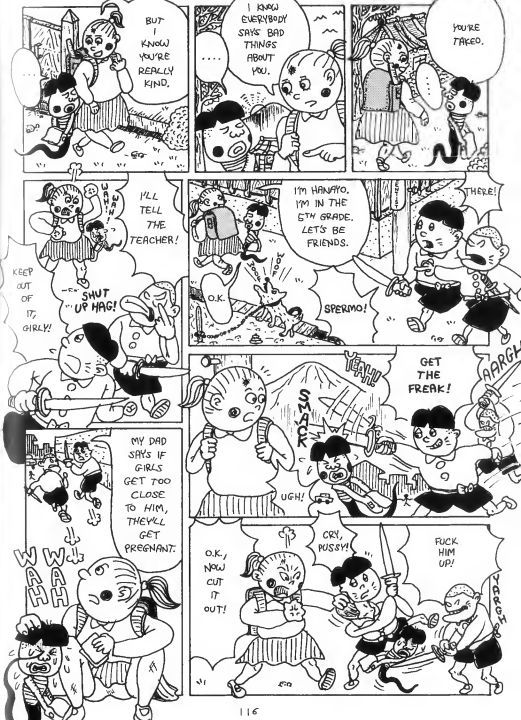
...THE SKY.
GRADE 1 SECTION 2
THE COW LOOKED UP AND SAW....
HAPPINESS FIRST GRADE
YO, SPERMO!
HEY YA FREAK!
UGH!
PUNCH
KICK
KICK
KICK

UGH!
MINE!
GOT IT!
WU?
GAH!
OW!
BOOP
ARE YOU OK-?
WAH!
OUCH!
AH...
MY HEAD.
OUCH!
INFIRMARY
UGH!
HOOP
HOOP
HOOP
RUN

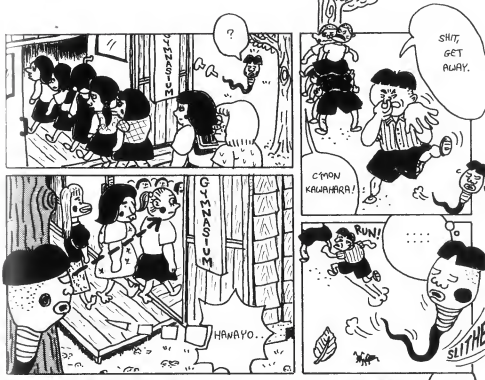
IT'S SPERMO!
UGH!
PLAY BALL!
TOSS
GO ON, BEAT IT!
YA CRUMMY SPERM! WHATTA SISSY!
SMACK
UGH!
MY BAD!
GOT IT!
YOUR WAY!
HUP!

HUH?
LET ME.
GOD, I HATE HIM!
SIGH
OW
OUCH!
CREEPY.
HELP!!!
IT!
FOR YOUR HELP. LOOKS O.K. NOW.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH ....
EH?
KAW KAW KAW
MOPE

UH...
UH?
OUCH
NNNN
BUT-
I HATE YOU!
JUST GO AWAY!
INFIRMARY
IODINE
WHEN I THINK THAT THAT JERK'S A SPERM, I WANNA THROW UP!
LET'S GO!
UGH! HE MAKES ME SICK!
SNURK


BUT I KNOW YOU'RE REALLY KIND.
I KNOW EVERYBODY SAYS BAD THINGS ABOUT YOU.
YOU'RE TAKEO.
UHH...
I'LL TELL THE TEACHER!
KEEP OUT OF IT, GIRLY!
SHUT UP HAG!
I'M HANAYO. I'M IN THE 6TH GRADE. LET'S BE FRIENDS.
THERE!
O.K.
SPERMO!
YEAH!
GET THE FREAK!
AARGH
SMACK
UGH!
MY DAD SAYS IF GIRLS GET TOO CLOSE TO HIM, THEY'LL GET PREGNANT.
WASH
O.K., NOW CUT IT OUT!
CRY, PUSSY!
FUCK HIM UP!
SMACK

DO YOU KNOW THIS SONG?
GR-
.....
DON'T CRY TAKEO.
WAAAH
LET'S SING IT TOGETHER.
SURE, I KNOW IT:
LA LA LA LA LA LA LA LA
TAKE THAT!
KRAK!
HANAYO AND TAKEO BECAME BEST FRIENDS.
POND AH WA
SAID HI
SINA SHUCK
COOL SHUCK
AH, THOUGHT I SMELLED A SPERM.
STINKS!


SHIT, GET AWAY.
C'MON KAUAHARA!
RUN!
SLITHER
GYMNASIUM
?
GYMNASIUM
HAWAYO...
IN THIS WAY THE CHILD IS BORN FROM THE MOTHER.
FROM PREGNANCY TO BIRTH
NEW BORN
HERMAPH
STARE
... AND EJACULATES SPERM INTO THE MOTHER'S VAGINA.
TURN
SLITHER
EACH EJACULATION CONTAINS 100 TO 200 MILLION SPERM.
FIRST THE FATHER'S PENIS BECOMES ERECT...

BOYS AREN'T ALLOWED TO HEAR THAT STORY.
SO...
TAKEO, I SAW YOU PEEKING INTO THE GYMNASIUM TODAY.
KA-W
KA-W
WHAT? WHY AM I A SHIT?!?
YOU'RE JUST A LITTLE SHIT.
MAYBE I'LL TELL THE TEACHER.
SO WHAT!
WAH!
HMMPH- TAKEO, I KNOW YOU CAME FROM YOUR DAD'S PENIS, SO YOU'RE JUST PISS!
NYA-AGHH! YOU SHIT!
BECAUSE YOU CAME FROM YOUR MOTHER'S ASS-HOLE.
WAH!
I DON'T LIKE PRICKS!
BESIDES,
YOU LIT-TLE PI-SS.
YOU'RE A SHIT!

HANAYO!
MOM!
COO-EE
WHAT'S THIS?
HANAYO, YOUR PERIOD JUST STARTED!
LITTLE GIRLS SHOULDN'T PLAY WITH SPERM!
SIGH
KICK
TAKE
WOBBLE
AH..
HIS HOUSE

THIS IS CALPICO SODA. IT'S REALLY GOOD.
MMM?!
SHHH!
AH..
SPERM!
GRRR...
SORRY ABOUT YESTERDAY.
MMM, TASTES GOOD!
SLURP
TWINS
QUIET, MOM. WILL HEAR US.
CANDY
CANDY
HEY, IT'S A SPERM DRINKING SPERM!
SODA
RAPIST GET OUT!
RAPIST
O.K. BE CARE-FUL!
MAIL
DRINKS HIS PALS!
YOU LITTLE CANNIBAL.
I'M GOING TO SCHOOL, GRANDMA.

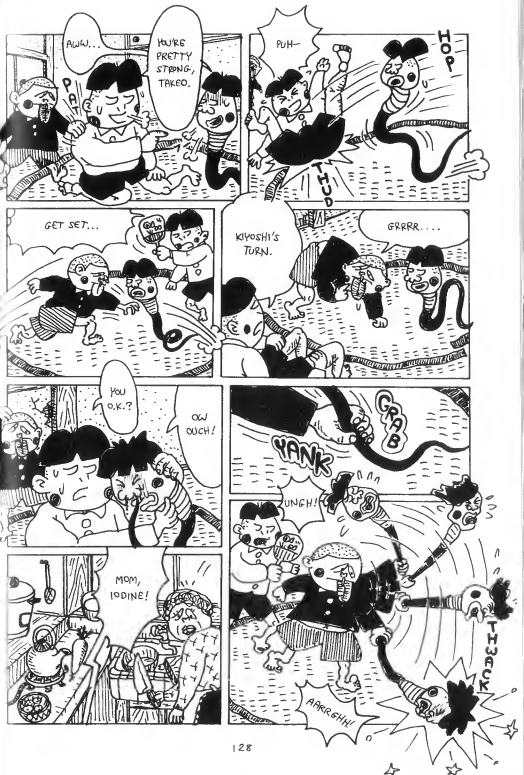
OH NO!
RADIOACTIVE CAPTAIN DEAD
RADIOACTIVITY BLAMED. IT WAS SEVERAL YEARS AGO WHEN A TUNA FISHING BOAT OFF HIGHLER ATOLL, WHERE THE U.S. ARMY WAS CONDUCTING HYDROGEN BOMB TESTS, WAS CONTAMINATED BY RADIOACTIVE FALLOUT (CONT: P.7)
AFTER A DECADE LONG BATTLE WITH ILLNESS
CHURCH OF SATANISM
YOU SAID IT....
LOOK, HOW SURPRISING!
PUBLIC HALL
THESE PEOPLE WERE IRRADIATED.
THE SO-CALLED NUCLEAR SICKNESS.
FASCINATING.
SEE.
VERY SIMILAR TO THOSE CASES REPORTED IN HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI.
WRONG
YOU KNOW, THERE'S NO DOSE-YOU GET LOWER DAMAGE OR LEVENTH...
BUT A SICK OLD MAN CONSUMING MORE CIGARETTES AND DEEP FRIED BEER WILL STILL RUIN HIS HEALTH.
THE SMOKER WILL BE THE FIRST TO GO.
YOU SAID IT
SQUEEEE
THE SMOKER BEEN THE FIRST TO GO.
YOU SAID IT
YEAH
THAT'S WHAT I SAID
THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH ME
I'M FINE
I'M JUST A LITTLE SHAKEN UP ON ACCOUNT OF YOU
ENOUGH IF YOU FAST. IT WILL CLEAR UP ON ITS OWN
YOU KNOW, I'M GETTING KINDA SICK OF YOU
YOU'RE DONE FOR
YOU'RE DONE FOR
NOTICE HOW ROYAL BLUE IS IN PART LIKE?
OI 20
THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH ME
I'M FINE
I'M JUST A LITTLE SHAKEN UP
AND YOU DON'T LOOK SO HOT EITHER
SO ARE YOU
SO ARE YOU
AND YOU DON'T LOOK SO HOT EITHER
SO ARE YOU
SO ARE YOU
SO ARE HERE THE HENCHMEN ARE SO TALL-BE A HEIGHTENED HEIGHT
AND THEIR EYES LOOK LIKE A STARE
CULP
THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH ME
I'M FINE
I'M JUST A LITTLE SHAKEN UP
AND YOU DON'T LOOK SO HOT EITHER
SO ARE YOU
SO ARE YOU
THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH ME
I'M FINE
I'M JUST A LITTLE SHAKEN UP
AND YOU DON'T LOOK SO HOT EITHER
SO ARE YOU
SO ARE YOU

TAKEO...
SADA-KICHI...
I-I REFUSE TO OUTLIVE MY CHILD AND GRANDSON.
GRANDPA!
BYE BYE.
WELL, SEE YOU TOMORROW.
GET OUT
CREEK
RAPIST
I'M HOME.
RAPIST

TAKEO.
SO, TAKEO WILL BE LEAVING US AND MOVING TO TOKIO.
...
...
GOOD RIDDANCE!
FINALLY IT'S SAFE TO COME TO SCHOOL.
YES...
HANAYO, SOMEDAY WE'LL MEET AGAIN!
HANAYO, YOU TOO--
GRRRR
GRRRR
GRRRR
BE GOOD.
TAKEO, YOUR RELATIVE IS WAITING TO MEET YOU AT UNION STATION.
WILL.
WRITE ME, O.K.?
RI-ING
RING

YOU MUST BE TAKEO.
UENO
SHITAMACHI
HI.
THIS IS TADASHI (1ST GRADE) AND KIYOSHI (KINDER-GARTEN).
I'M YOUR KIN.
UH...
COUSINS
SECOND COUSINS
I'M YOUR GRANDMA'S SECOND COUSIN HEH, HEH, HEH.
UH...
MURATA
YOSHIKI
MURATA
YUKIHIRO
STRIKE
SPARE

STOP THAT NOW!
KIYOSHI!!
NYEEAH!
ACK!
I'M FINE.
I'M SORRY, YOU O.K.?
NO!
SMACK!
LET'S PLAY SUMO, TAKEO.
THAT'S ASTRO BOY, TAKEO.
HE'S SUMO.
YEAH!
LET'S PLAY!
GO!
ON YOUR MARK, GET SET,

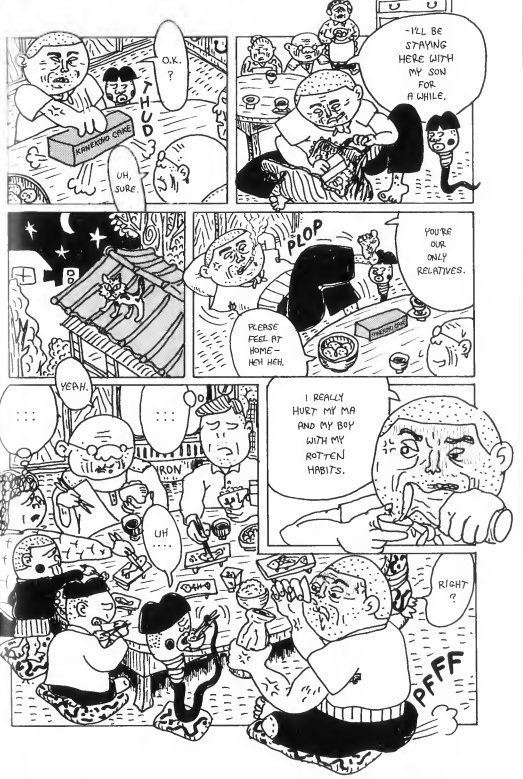

AWW...
YOU'RE PRETTY STRONG, TAKEO.
PUH-
HOP
THUD
GET SET...
KIYOSHI'S TURN.
GRRRR....
YOU O.K.?
OW OUCH!
GRAB
YANK
UNGH!
THUNK
AARRGHH!
MOM, IODINE!

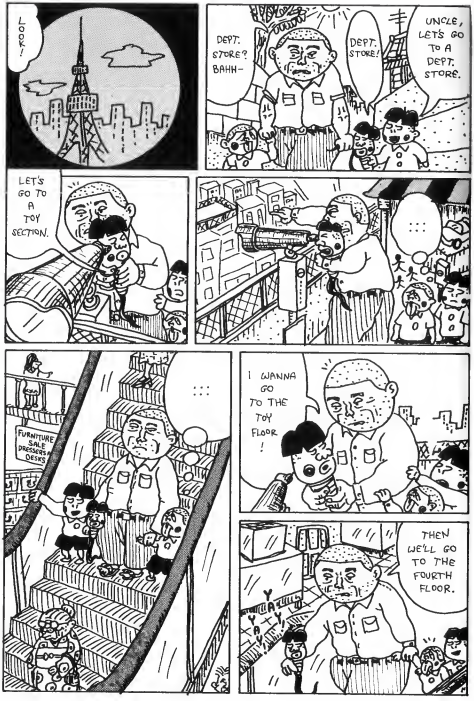
YOU MUSN'T DO THAT!
KIYOSH!!
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
YES.
....
PLUS, HE'S A SPERM- GIVE HIM A BREAK.
BOOM!
YOU HAVE TO LOSE- HE'S OLDER THAN YOU.
KIYOSHI WANTS TO PLAY YOU AGAIN.
UH
YES, YES.
AH, TAKEO. YOU ALRIGHT?

HUH?
DAD!
CREEK
HELLOOO!
AH, HERE WE ARE.
SO YOU'RE KIN? THANKS FOR TAKIN' CARE OF MY KID.
AH, WELL IM-
TAKEO! HOW I MISSED YOU!
WAAH!
YEAH, YEAH, WHATEVER.
YOUR MOTHER'S SECOND COUSIN.

SLIP
THUD
GO!
KIYOSHI WON.
NO, NO.
TA-KEO'S GAME.
MONSTER.
HMM.
THAT'S HIM.
AT HIS NEW SCHOOL, TAKEO IS ONCE AGAIN THE CENTER OF ATTENTION. AT RECESS KIDS FROM OTHER CLASSES COME TO GET A LOOK.
SPOOK.
SNAKE.
EWW.
WOW, WHAT'S THIS?

I'LL STICK TO JERKIN' OFF.
UH...
WHAT'S "FUCK"?
SO I MADE UP MY MIND, NO MORE FUCKING.
NO MORE RAPING FOR ME?
?
EXCUSE ME, THERE ARE CHILDREN PRESENT.
IF I REALLY NEED IT, I'LL BUY A WOMAN.
WELL...
WHAT IS FUCK?
ER...
GULP!
AH!
BUT I STILL GOTTA HAVE MY SAKE AND MY GAMBLING TO KEEP ME SANE, SO PLEASE BE GENEROUS.


O.K.?
THUD
KENKENPA CAKE
UH, SURE.
-I'LL BE STAYING HERE WITH MY SON FOR A WHILE.
PLOP
YOU'RE OUR ONLY RELATIVES.
PLEASE FEEL AT HOME— HEH HEH.
YEAH.
I REALLY HURT MY MA AND MY BOY WITH MY ROTTEN HABITS.
UH...
RON
OHHO
RIGHT?
PFFF


LOOK!
DEPT. STORE? BAHH-
DEPT. STORE!
UNCLE, LET'S GO TO A DEPT. STORE.
LET'S GO TO A TOY SECTION.
FURNITURE SALE! DRESSERS DESKS
I WANNA GO TO THE TOY FLOOR!
THEN WE'LL GO TO THE FOURTH FLOOR.

DRUNKEN STENCH
....WHEN I WAS IN THE PEN, I HEARD THEY SHUT DOWN THE RED-LINE WHORE HOUSE.
BY THE WAY, TELL ME BIG MAN ...
AWW
WELL, I WOULDN'T KNOW ABOUT THOSE THINGS- EH, HEH, HEH.
IS THAT TRUE?
RANCID BREATH
THUD THUD
SCREAM!
THESE DAMN NOISY KIDS.
OSTRICH
WE'RE COMIN' TOO!
ALRIGHT ...
HOW ABOUT GOIN' TO TOKYO FOR SOME SIGHT-SEEING TAKEO?
YEAH!

4F
TOYS
STEP-TOE?
UNCLE, HOW DID YOU KNOW THE TOYS WERE ON THE FOURTH FLOOR?
KIYOSHI, DON'T!
LOOK!
PHLEM
SPIT
TOYS
4F
STER
ER
YOU WANNA PLAY MENKO OR MARBLES?
WHAT, A BROTHER?!?!
ATCHEW!
I WANT A BROTHER.
TOYS
4F
POW!
POW!
SCREECH!
TAKEO, DAD IS GONNA BUY YOU ANYTHING YOU WANT. JUST SAY THE WORD.
WELL...

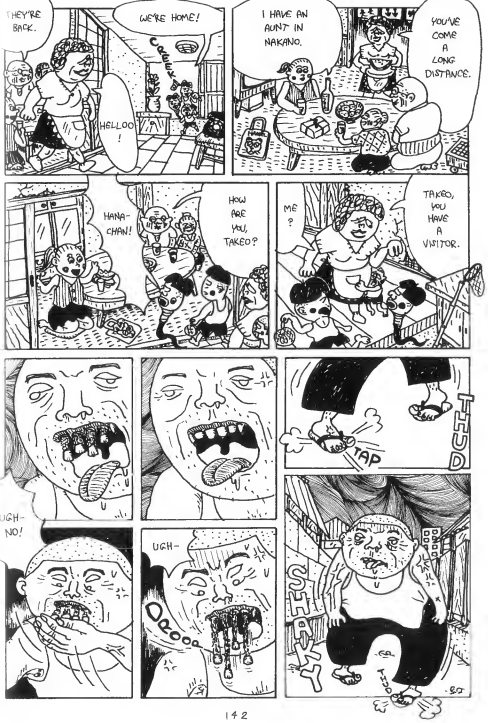
UNCLE, HOW DID YOU KNOW THE TOYS WERE ON THE FOURTH FLOOR?
UNCLE, HOW DID YOU KNOW THE TOYS WERE ON THE FOURTH FLOOR?

HOW ARE YOU BIG BROTHER? HEH-HEH.
THESE ARE YOUR BROTHERS.
WHA??
TAKEO, COME LOOK.
LOOK AT THIS.
WOW, DAD, THANKS.
BROTHERS... MY LITTLE BROTHERS.
BUT NOW...
MOAN-N-S
ZZZZ
SLITHER

5:00 P.M.
HON, HOW MUCH IS THIS?
HEY!
3331
I NEED THIS.
UNCLE, I WANT THIS.
LOOK HERE, A MICRO-SCOPE FOR YOU, TAKEO.
WHAT?
O.K.
HMMM...
WHISTLES ¥100
I WANT ONE OF THOSE...
YOU GUYS CAN HAVE THESE FLUTES.
BOOKS
MAGAZINES
TOYS
TOOTH PASTE
TOOTH BRUSHES
TOOTH POWDER
TOOTH PICKS
TOOTH PASTE
TOOTH BRUSHES
TOOTH POWDER
TOOTH PICKS

AH...
DAD! MY BROTHERS ARE DEAD!
AK
I'M HOME
EH?
GIMME A MINUTE, HERE.
RACE MATTERS ON THE DAY!
WHA-?
CHRRP
HOW'S IT GOIN' BIG BROTHER? HEH, HEH.
LOOK!
WOW, THEY'RE BACK!
OW OUCH !!

SHIT, EVERY DENTIST IS CLOSED.
ANY-BODY HERE?
DENTIST
BZZZ
CLOSED FROM 8/1 TO 8/16
DAT IS A PROB-LEM.
BUT ALL THE DAMN DENTISTS ARE CLOSED.
I GOT THIS TOOTHACHE, IT'S KILLIN' ME.
WHAT'S A MATTER SUZUKI?
GIVE IT TO ME GOOD, MAN.
OH YEAH? YOU SAY IT WORKS?
IT'LL COST YA, BUT I GOT A INCREDIBLE GOOD MEDICINE.
HEY BRO,
YEAH, JUST ONE SHOT.
YOU SURE ?


THEY'RE BACK.
WE'RE HOME!
HELLOO!
I HAVE AN AUNT IN NAKANO.
YOU'VE COME A LONG DISTANCE.
HANA-CHAN!
HOW ARE YOU, TAKEO?
ME?
TAKEO, YOU HAVE A VISITOR.
UGH-
NO!
UGH-
TAP
DCH
SHAKY

WHAT'S WRONG, SUZUKI?
GEN'S FISH
GOTTA GET HOME RIGHT AWAY.
I GOTTA RUN!
...
TOTTERING
OH, THAT'S NO GOOD.
MY TEETH ARE FALLING OUT.
GET AWAY!
HI, DAD!
WRECH!
THAT'S NOTHIN'- WHAT'S WORSE, THERE'S SHIT POURING FROM THE HOLES.
BZZZZ
HUH?
CAN'T HOLD-
LISTEN, HANAYO IS...
DASH!

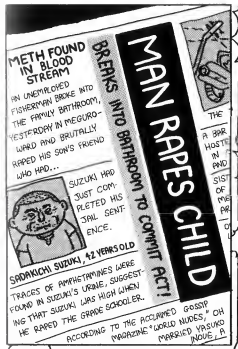
WHAT'S THIS? MASTURBATING?
YANK
OH BABY.
HEH HEH HEH
I'LL GIVE YA THE REAL THING.
CRACK
CRASH
YELP~~
NO!!
WHAT'S THAT?
WH-WHAT HAP-PEN-ED?
FATHER, COME QUICK!
OH NO!
LOOKIE!
NO!

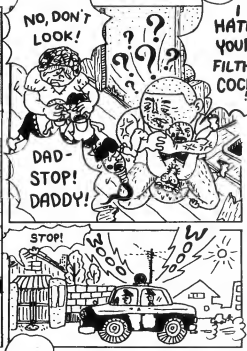
WHY ?!?!
HUH?
WAIT, SOME-ONE IS
WHY IS THIS LOCKED?
I'M IN HERE!
HEE HEE
LOOK, LET ME IN- I'LL GIVE YA A GIFT!!
AH...
SAWING!

HOW'S THIS?
SQUEEZE
GOD, NO!
SQUEEZE
I GET IT, YOU REALLY WANT TO SEE THIS.
WAH
PLEASE.
ALRIGHT, TAKE A GOOD LOOK.
NOO
FILE THIS.
SQUEEZE
PLEASE, STOP!
AIEEYAH! NOO!!
OH!
HANA!
POLICE!
WHAP
TUT TUT TUT

HUH?
DU-CCH!
THRUST
DOOT!
WHAT-?
E-EXCUSE ME, BUT-
JEALOUS, YA FILTHY OLD FART?
T-TRULY, PLEASE DON'T.
DON'T MAKE A FUSS- SHE LOVES IT.
AH..
WAAH!
BOP
BAP
BAP

I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM!
UH...
WHERE'S TAKEO?
SINCE WHEN?
ALL DAY.
OH?
O.K. DAD.
GO OUT AND LOOK FOR HIM.
I'M GOIN' TOO.
FATHER, LOOK AT THIS.
HEH?
UH!

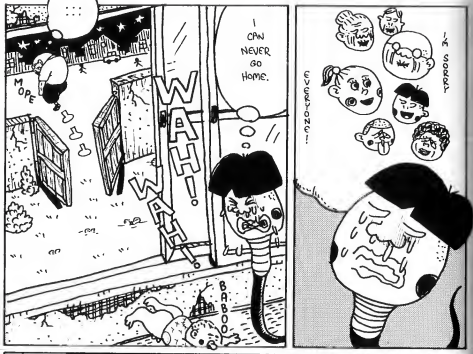

METH FOUND IN BLOOD STREAM
MAN RAPES CHILD
BREAKS INTO BATHROOM TO COMMIT ACT!
SUZUKI WAS JUST COMPLETED HIS JAIL SENTENCE.
SADAKICHI SUZUKI, 42 YEARS OLD

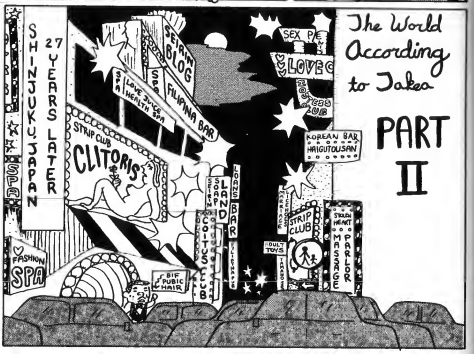

NO, DON'T LOOK!
I HATE YOUR FILTHY COCK!
DAD-STOP! DADDY!
STOP!
WOOO
WOOO

SUPPER....

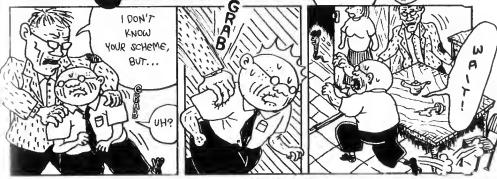
TAKEO, YOUR GRANDFATHER IS HERE TO TAKE YOU HOME.
I UNDERSTAND YOU'RE HIS GRAND-FATHER.
LET'S GO HOME NOW, EH- HEH, HEH, HEH.
TAKEO, WHAT MADE YOU RUN AWAY LIKE THAT?
T-TAKEO!
I NEVER SAW HIM BEFORE.
I DON'T KNOW THIS MAN.
EH?
I THINK HE'S TRYING TO KIDNAP ME.
TAKEO!
TAKEO, IT'S ME GRAND-PA.
I DON'T KNOW HIM.

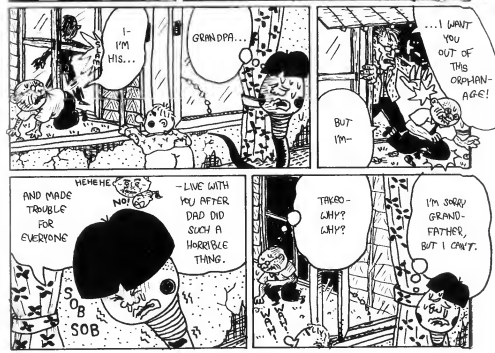
YEAH ?
A KID?
DEAR GRANDFATHER AND EVERYONE.
I'M LEAVING FOR GOOD. I HAD A NICE TIME STAYING WITH YOU. I'M GOING TO LIVE ALONE FROM NOW ON. PLEASE DON'T TRY TO FIND ME.
TAKEO.
WHAT'S HE LOOK LIKE? WHAT? A SPERM??
HE SHOWED UP EARLY THIS MORNING.
I SEE.
HE TOLD US HIS FATHER'S DEAD, AND HE HAS NO KIN.
HE'S IN AN ORPHANAGE IN SETAGAYA.
NO-NO I'M HIS RELATIVE.
AN ORPHAN-AGE?


I CAN NEVER GO HOME.
WAH! WAH!
MOPE
BABOOM
ENCRUSTED...
SPROING


The World According to Jake
PART II
27 YEARS LATER
SHINJUKU JAPAN
SEX PIE
LOVE
SEX PIE BLOG
FUKUOKA BAR
STRIP CLUB
CLITORIS
KOREAN BAR HIGUTSUSAN
SHIP CLUB
TRAIN HENTAI
MASSAGE PARLOR
HOTEL
LOVE
SPA
BIG PUBLIC TOILET

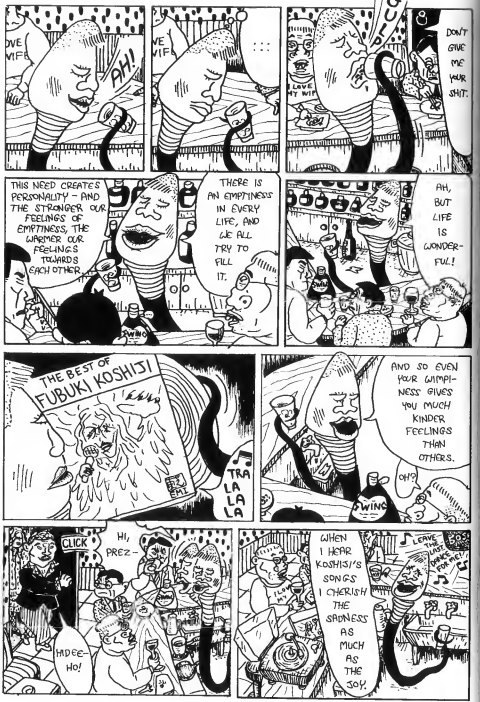
TAKE O!
DASH
I LIVE HERE!
PLEASE GET HIM AWAY FROM ME!
...HE DOESN'T KNOW YOU.
THE BOY SEEMS TO BE SPYING...
NO-NO I'M HIS-


I DON'T KNOW YOUR SCHEME, BUT...
UH?
GRRR
WAIT!


I-I'M HIS...
GRANDPA...
...I WANT YOU OUT OF THIS ORPHANAGE!
BUT I'M-
HEHEHE
AND MADE TROUBLE FOR EVERYONE
-LIVE WITH YOU AFTER DAD DID SUCH A HORRIBLE THING.
SOB SOB
TABOO-WHY? WHY?
I'M SORRY GRANDFATHER, BUT I CAN'T.

UP HERE, 2ND FLOOR.
Jake's World
I KNOW A PLACE ON 2ND STREET.
MI YOS HI
LET'S HIT ONE MORE BAR.
BAR
EH, SPERM?
WHAT- NEVER BEEN TO A GAY BAR? DON'T FRET, THE OWNER IS REALLY O.K., THOUGH SHE IS A SPERM.
CLICK
WELL?
LAW? OF COURSE WE HAD VARIOUS-
WANNA HEAR IT?
IT'S A PITIFUL TALE...
EH?
SAY, NOW- HERE'S A GOOD LOOKING MAN.
WELL, DIRECTOR, HAVEN'T SEEN YOU HERE IN QUITE A WHILE.
HAVEN'T HAD THE TIME.

HO HO HO
HE'S MY TYPE, HE'S MARVELOUS.
GIVE US SOME HOT DOGS AND FRENCH FRIES.
MENU
DOES HE?
SAY, HASN'T ANYONE EVER TOLD YOU THAT YOU LOOK LIKE KEN TAKAKURA?
AM I?
BUT TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, I THINK YOU'RE SPOILED.
AH, SORRY TO INTERRUPT YOUR STORY.
SNACK BAR
MAMA
THOUGH THIS IS A GAY BAR, IT DOESN'T MEAN EVERY CUSTOMER IS GAY.
SEE.
DON'T BE FOOLISH- I'M TALKING TO YOU STRAIGHT BECAUSE YOU SAID YOU WERE IN TROUBLE.
WELL, HEH HEH...
YES- DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE YOU KNOW WHAT LOVE IS?
GOES UNDERSTAND LIFE'S VICISSITUDES.
AH, I WANT TO BE REBORN AS A RICH HANDSOME MAN. MAYBE I'M...
DON'T BE A WIMP.
MANY YOUNG PEOPLE COME HERE SEEKING MAMA'S ADVICE.
YOU'RE ALWAYS CHANGING YOUR STORY, AND YOUR GIRLFRIEND TAKES ADVANTAGE OF IT.


AH!
DON'T GIVE ME YOUR SHIT.
THIS NEED CREATES PERSONALITY - AND THE STRONGER OUR FEELINGS OF EMPTINESS, THE WARMER OUR FEELINGS TOWARDS EACH OTHER.
THERE IS AN EMPTINESS IN EVERY LIFE, AND WE ALL TRY TO FILL IT.
AH, BUT LIFE IS WONDERFUL!
THE BEST OF FUBUKI KOSHIJI
TRA LA LA
AND SO EVEN YOUR UMPINESS GIVES YOU MUCH KINDER FEELINGS THAN OTHERS.
OH?
CLICK
HI, PREZ-
HIDEHO!
WHEN I HEAR KOSHIJI'S SONGS I CHERISH THE SADNESS AS MUCH AS THE JOY.

IT'S LIKE ME SAYING I WISH ALL US GAYS WERE REBORN AS WOMEN.
NO- WHEN YOU TALK SUCH NONSENSE THERE'S NOTHING MORE I CAN TELL YOU.
RE-BORN ?
THERE CAN BE NO DISCRIMINATION HERE- HOW RUDE OF YOU.
HEY!!
OR IN YOUR CASE MAMA, 'AN EGG!'
MAMA, GAY DON'T YOU HAVE A DRINK?
SO WHAT. WHAT DO I CARE ?
C'MON MAMA.
I DON'T CARE- I'M JUST A QUEER STORM- AN EASY TARGET.
SPERM IS PRE-HUMAN, SURPASSING MAN, WOMAN, OR QUEER, AND MUCH CLOSER TO GOD AND THE FUNDAMENTAL WORD OF UNKNOWN POSSIBILITIES.
SHUT UP!
DRINK UP.
BUT MAMA HAS NO PENIS. SO SHE'S A REAL WOMAN.

SLAM
TUT TUT TUT
EEEOKO...
THE LAST DANCE
I JUST REMEMBERED SOMETHING URGENT.
WHAT?
WE HAVE A GUEST ASKING FOR MOMOKO KIKUCHI.
ENJOY!
SOAPLAND
WELCOME!
BATH ¥10,000 SERVICE ¥20,000
HA-NA-YO.
I KNEW YOU'D COME.
SCRUB SCRUB

159

I'VE FINALLY DECIDED.
FU...
I BROUGHT A NEW GIRL!
AH!
IT'S ME TAKEO!
AH!
YEAH?
HANAYO!
THUMP
PRESIDENT, I HAVE TO GO.
WHAT GIVES?
WE NEVER MET.
UH?
DO YOU KNOW EACH OTHER?

158

LOOK, HERE COMES A HEARSE.
AFTER THAT DAY I HATED MY FATHER.
BRRR
AH.
RATHER, TELL ME HOW YOU, TAKEO, A SPERM, BECAME GAY? I'M REALLY SURPRISED.
A LOT OF THINGS?
LIKE WHAT?
A LOT OF THINGS HAPPENED.
IF WE SHOW OUR THUMBS, PAPA WILL DIE.
BAD LUCK, HIDE YOUR THUMBS.
I SEE...
IT'S NOT INTERESTING
WANNA HEAR?
YES, TELL ME.
COMPOSITION THEME "MY FATHER"
ONE DAY
I WISHED THEN THAT I HAD A THUMB TO LEAVE OUT.

...
I'M NOT AT ALL REALLY NEED TO ASK...
WELL, I...
WHY DO YOU WORK IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?
I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL THIS!
TAKEO!
HA-NA-YO.
PLEASE FORGIVE ME!
RATHER?
THAT MEANS NOTHING TO ME NOW. IT'S NOT UNUSUAL FOR SOMEONE TO BE TWISTED BY A TRAUMATIC CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCE. RATHER...
SOB
SHOULD HAVE STOPPED MY FATHER EARLIER!
TAKEO PLEASE STOP CRYING.

SHE'S ACTUALLY ONLY 24 YEARS OLD AND RECENTLY MARRIED.
HEY MR. SUZUKI. ...
WHY AREN'T YOU WRITING?
WELL... ....
AN ESSAY REGARDING MY FATHER
PLEASE BEGIN WITH THIS THEME.
...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I KNOW VERY WELL THAT YOUR FATHER IS IN JAIL.
MY DAD'S BEEN DEAD A LONG TIME.
I WAS FORCED TO STAY AFTER SCHOOL.
WHAT A DISHONORABLE BOY. I CAN'T PASS YOU WITH THIS. SEEMS LIKE YOU WISH TO REPEAT 1ST GRADE.
YOU CAN'T AVOID THE ASSIGNMENT BY LYING. DO THE WORK OR YOU'LL BE PUNISHED.
SNURK...
WHAT'S THIS? "I HATE MY FATHER AND I WISH HE WAS DEAD"!
THEN...
SO I TRIED TO PUT DOWN MY TRUE FEELINGS.
BUT ALL I COULD THINK ABOUT DAD WAS THE ROTTEN THINGS HE DID.
NN DOO
(-CRACK-)
ZZZNNN
HEY TAKEO!
HUH?
BUT THEN...
ZZZ
IF YOU WERE A HUMAN KID IT WOULD BE NATURAL TO HATE YOUR PARENT— BUT A SPERM IS NOT ALLOWED!
YOU ARE A SPERM!
A SPERM MUST NOT HATE HIS HUMAN CREATOR.
WHO THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?
CONSIDER YOURSELF LUCKY, TAKEO: YOU EAT AND SLEEP AND GO TO SCHOOL.
MOST OF US ARE DESTINED TO DIE IN A TISSUE, UNDERPANTS, OR SOME STRANGE VAGINA.
WE KNOW YOUR DAD IS A BAD MAN, BUT YOU ALONE MUST WHOLEHEARTEDLY ACCEPT HIM.
IF WE DENY OUR ORIGINAL FATHER, WE DENY THE UNIVERSE.

• THE TIMES •
TAKEO SUZUKI WINS ESSAY CONTEST
INDOMITABLE SPIRIT DESPITE PHYSICAL HANDICAPS
TAKEO SUZUKI
THERE WASN'T A DRY EYE IN THE HOUSE AND I RECEIVED AN AWARD FROM THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION.
HOWEVER MUCH PEOPLE SPEAK ILL OF MY DAD, I LOVE HIM AND HOPE HE WILL COME BACK SOON.
YES, "MORNING SHOW"
YES, I REMEMBER THAT- YOU ALSO APPEARED ON TV.
I-I...
HEY, THAT'S TAKEO, TOO!
SON, TELL US THE SAD STORY OF YOU AND YOUR DAD.
THE MORNING SHOW
WE HAVE A GUEST THIS MORNING WHOSE PITIFUL TALE WILL BRING YOU TO TEARS.
TAKEO SUZUKI
DAD, I WON'T GIVE UP!
AS SEEN ON TV!
¥330
• GUNG HO LIBRARY STAMP
• ALSOCK BLOCK
THERE WAS EVEN A HIT RECORD.
WEEKLY LIBERATED WOMAN
A MOVING CONFESSIONAL TALE
I WAS IN ALL THE MAGAZINES.
SUCH A PITY.
TAKEO, YOU'VE REALLY HAD A SAD LIFE.
MY STORY CAUSED TEARS IN HOUSES ALL OVER THE COUNTRY.

YAWN
SO, HOW'S IT GOING, MR. SUZUKI?
THERE CAN BE NO HATRED- ONLY GRATITUDE TOWARDS A FATHER WHO GAVE YOU THIS MIRACLE.
AN UNFATHOMABLE NUMBER OF US HAVE DIED SINCE HUMANITY BEGAN. YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE WHO REMAINS INTACT.
TAKEO! DADA!
I UNDERSTAND. WHENEVER ANYONE PICKED ON ME, DAD WAS THERE, SOLID AS THE EARTH ITSELF.
WAH!
FROM NOW ON I WILL CHERISH HIM, AND TRY TO WRITE THE TRUTH ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED.
I LOVE MY DAD MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE IN THE WORLD. I WAS BORN WHILE HE MASTURBATED ON A BOAT.
BESIDES, NO MATTER HOW MUCH I BLAME HIM, NOTHING CAN CHANGE THE PAST.
"MY DAD" BY TAKEO SUZUKI. MY DAD GAVE BIRTH TO ME WHILE MASTURBATING ON A FISHING BOAT. HE'S NOW IN JAIL FOR RAPE, BUT I AM STILL ALIVE.
TAKEO SUZUKI
SOCIAL STUDIES COURSE
JAPANESE HISTORY
ETC. ETC.
HIGHER MATHEMATICS
GEOGRAPHY OF ORIENTATION
GO ON...
HELICOPTER
STUDENT ESSAY COMPETITION
AND THIS ESSAY WAS A BIG SUCCESS.

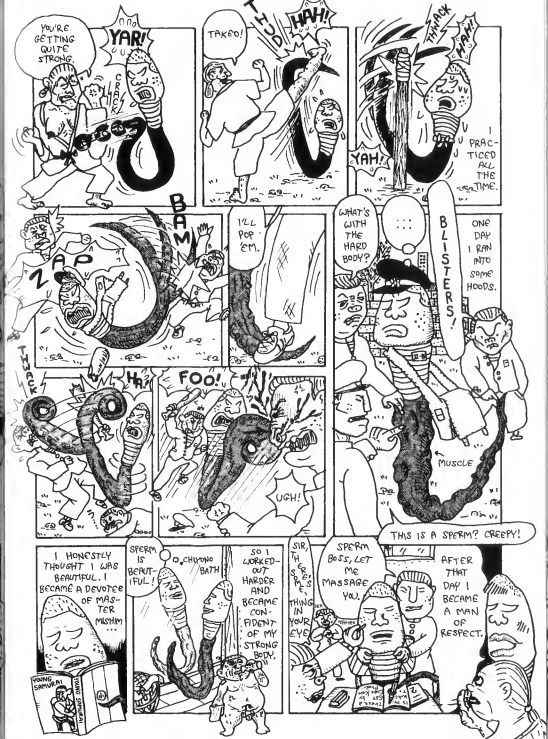
SOB!
IT WAS PERHAPS A MEANINGLESS FAD, BUT...
LOAD IT UP- I CAN HANDLE IT.
FOOD SCRAPS
HE BECOME A MODEL PRISONER.
TAKEO, I PROMISE TO CHANGE MY WAYS!
WAH!
WAH!
SOB
DAD WAS AFFECTED MOST OF ALL.
GATE
TAKEO!
GATE
DADDY!
TWO YEARS LATER. HE WAS PA-ROL-ED...
STOP THIS NOW!
I'LL KILL YOU!
I'LL NEVER LAY A HAND ON A WOMAN AGAIN.
SIR, TELL US- HOW ARE YOU FEELING?
S-TV
SOOB!
SOB!
WAH!
I MISSED YOU DAD!
TAKEO, FORGIVE ME!
SEIRIN TV
EXCUSE ME, SORRY TO BOTHER YOU.
S-TV

CLAP CLAP
CLAP CLAP
GOOD IDEA- GIVE US A WHRL INSTEAD.
CON-GRAT-ULATIONS ON YOUR NEW FREEDOM.
SEIRIN TV
I MADE MANY TERRIBLE MISTAKES BUT I'LL NEVER... SWEAR NEVER TOUCH ANOTHER WOMAN.
S-TV
SEIRIN
THE HOMOSEXUAL POPULATION SUPPORTS YOU, MR. SADAKICHI!
SADAKI SUZUKI
congratulatic
YEAH?
HERE WE ARE.
WHOA
THAT NIGHT ONE OF THEM TOOK US HOME WITH THEM.
HAVE SOME CAKE TAKEO
DON'T WORRY WE'RE NOT WOMEN!
WOW!
I DON'T WANT A WOMAN!
THESE GAY GUYS TOOK US TO THEIR CLUB.
OH, HOW NICE.
ZZZZZ
SLURP SLURP
SUCK SUCK

LOVE YOU.
SCOOCH
KISS
OH! MORE!
BERTS JERKING OFF.
THRUST
THRUST
THRUST
LISTEN, DARLING?
TAKEO JUST CALLED ME "MOTHER."
MMM...
FREAKS!
SONS OF BITCHES!
BUT STILL, IN J.H.S. I WAS TEASED AND PICKED ON.
"WAH!"
"WAH!"
WE LIVED PEACEFULLY FOR THE NEXT THREE YEARS.
THIS ONE.
USE OUR RACE GUIDE TO SPEND YOUR BONUS WISELY
OUR RACE GUIDE HAS LED PEOPLE TO MANY WINNING TICKETS
HERE'S LUNCH, PAPA.
HORSE RACE TRACK AT KORAKUEN
RIGHT THRUST!
FSSH
FOOSH
101
102
SO MAMA TAUGHT ME KARATE. SHE HAD BEEN A TOURNAMENT CHAMP.

SAY HELLO TO YOUR TEACHER FOR ME.
O.K.
WE STAYED AT HIS PLACE FROM THAT NIGHT ON.
...I REGRETTED THAT I HADN'T BEEN ON THAT BOAT, MASTURBATING BEFORE MY OPERATION.
CLICK
CLICK
YOUR FATHER IS A GREAT MAN- HE GAVE US GAYS A HOPE AND ___ DREAM.
HEH?
HMM
WHEN I HEARD YOUR STORY
WHAT?
WILL YOU TRY AND CALL ME "MOM."
BY THE WAY, TAKEO, WILL YOU DO ME A FAVOR?
WHA?
FORGOT SPERM
BECAUSE, TAKEO, YOU ARE THE JEWEL OF HOPE FOR THOSE WHO CAN'T GET PREGNANT.
I SEE.
AH!
M-MOTHER I'M GOING TO SCHOOL.
BUT THE NEXT MORNING.
DON'T WORRY, I KNOW IT WASN'T I, BUT YOUR DAD, WHO GAVE BIRTH TO YOU.
UH, UM..
UH, UM..

CLAP
YA
YU
No N-
DO...
THIRD- MR. PAR
SECOND- TANAKA.
AND THE WINNER IS ISHIYAMA!
121
I QUIT KARATE AND BECAME OBSESSED WITH BODY-BUILDING.
122
BODY BUILDING CHAMPIONSHIP
THEN IN MY SENIOR YEAR I ENTERED THE NATIONAL STUDENT BODY BUILDING CHAMPIONSHIP. I'D THE ADVANCE OVER, AND THOUGHT I GOT THE TITLE.
203
FOO!
MY CONFIDENCE DIDN'T LAST. THERE WERE WALLS OF DISCRIMINATION WAITING FOR ME.
HOW SAD.
HUH, ARE YOU SOME KIND OF SOCIALIST?
EGG PAPER
THE CONFIDENCE I'D GAINED THROUGH BODY-BUILDING WAS STEADILY ERODING.
WELL, YES.
ER...
RESUME
WE'RE NOT PLAYING GAMES HERE.
OUR COMPANY'S LOOKING FOR A HUMAN BEING, NOT A WORM!
AT RECRUITING TIME, THE HALLS WERE THERE TO CRUSH ME.
BOOM BOOM
I WILL DO MY BEST TO SHOW I'M WORTHY.
I WAS ASSIGNED TO THE SALES DEPT.
EGG PAPER
EHP
EMPLOYEE
MA, I MADE IT!
I WAS ABOUT TO GIVE UP WHEN FINALLY I WAS HIRED.
HA HA HA
INTERESTING, A SPERM EMPLOYED BY A PAPER CO.!
RESUME
IN JAPANESE THE WORD FOR SPERM AND PAPER PRODUCTION ARE HOMONYMS


YOU'RE GETTING QUITE STRONG.
YAR!
TAKEO!
THUD
HAH!
TAKAK
HAH!
YAH!
I PRACTICED ALL THE TIME.
BAM
ZAP
I'LL POP 'EM.
WHAT'S WITH THE HARD BODY?
BLISTERS!
ONE DAY I RAN INTO SOME HOODS.
MUSCLE
TSCH
HA?
FOO!
UGH!
THIS IS A SPERM? CREEPY!
I HONESTLY THOUGHT I WAS BEAUTIFUL. I BECAME A DEVOTEE OF MASTER MASTURBATION.
YOUNG SAMURAI
SPERM IS BEAUTIFUL!
O, CHIYONO BATH
SO I WORKED OUT HARDER AND BECAME CONFIDENT OF MY STRONG BODY.
SIR, THERE'S SOMETHING IN YOUR EYE.
SPERM BOSS, LET ME MASSAGE YOU.
AFTER THAT DAY I BECAME A MAN OF RESPECT.

THOSE BELOW ME WERE ALWAYS PROMOTED IN MY PLACE. I WAS HONESTLY SHOCKED.
BUZZ
PROMOTION NOTICE... KOTAKE TO BECOME DIRECTOR
BUZZ
BUNN
YOU DID IT!
BUT...
TANAKA
SUZUKI
HA! HA!
ARR!
EGG PAPER CO.
I REWARDED THEIR NO. 1 SALESMAN FOR FIVE YEARS.
CONGRATS.
BECAUSE HE'S A SPERM. THAT'S WHY
PSST- WHY WASN'T MR. SUZUKI-
DIVISION-TANAPE ASST. DIRECTOR SOWADA
BUT AGAIN, THE NEXT PROMOTION WENT TO SOMEONE BELOW ME. THIS WAS SPERM DISCRIMINATION.
STATIONERY
HELLO. MY NAME IS SUZUKI.
EGG PAPER CO.
TANAKA
SUZUKI
AGAI
SOWA
NICE SHOT! YOU'RE QUITE A GOLFER.
HEH HEH HEH
NAY- AT ALL, YOU'RE THE BEST!
BUT I MADE THE BEST OF THINGS AND STAYED AT NO. 1
IS BEING A SPERM SUCH A TERRIBLE THING?! I GAVE THAT COMPANY EVERYTHING I HAD!
SOB
SOB
YOUR FATHER...
TAKEO, BAD NEWS!
HI MOM
THAT NIGHT I DRANK TOO MUCH AND WENT CRAZY. BUT THE NEXT MORNING IT ALL SEEMED INSIGNIFICANT.
I CAN'T STAND IT!
TOKYO TOWER
BANG

SALES
TANABI
SUZUKI
KOTAKE
HA HA HA
CONGRATULATIONS
THANKS!
MY SALES FIGURES WERE RECORD BREAKING, AND SOON EVERYONE IN THE CO. KNEW
KARITANI STATIONERY
HELLO!
PENS
YEAH, I HAVE THAT SOMETHING- A SPERM SELLING PAPER!
I MADE A PRETTY GOOD SALESMAN.
YOU LOOK A LITTLE SPOOKY, BUT YOU'RE VERY FUNNY.
IS HE THE SUZUKI FROM THE SALES DIVISION?
THEY SAY HE'S THE BEST.
THE SUZUKI?
THERE'S MR. SUZUKI.
MY NAME. MY CONFIDENCE WAS FULLY RECOVERED.
O.K., LET'S HEAR ABOUT THE 1ST TIME.
BESIDES NOT HAVING A BENG MADE ME THE ONLY VIRGIN IN THE CO.
TODAY IS FEB. 14TH.
FOR YOU.
BUT NO MATTER HOW MANY SALES RECORDS I MADE THIS BODY OF MINE COULD NEVER ATTRACT WOMEN.
I DECIDED TO CHANGE MY LIFE
THIS LONELINESS DROVE ME DEEPER INTO MY WORK.
BACK THEN, I SPENT A LOT OF TIME COUNTING STARS FROM THE BATHROOM WINDOW.
WHERE'S YOU GOING?
BATHROOM.

YOU HAVEN'T MADE LOVE TO ME IN MONTHS.
WHAT'S WRONG DARLING? YOU HAVE NO ENERGY THESE DAYS.
I FEEL SO SICK TODAY- I'M NOT GOING.
TIME FOR WORK DEAR.
EH?
NO! YOUR PENIS!
YES?
MRS. SUZUKI, MAY I HAVE A CHAT WITH YOU?
HMMM, BUT THERE'S NO ITCHING.
HA HA HA- IT'S ONLY A MILD VENEREAL DISEASE.
ASAHI KONO APARTMENTS
WHY? WHY? MY HUSBAND!
HIS LOVER CANCER HAS SPREAD TO A CRITICAL DEGREE- HIS SWOLLEN PENIS IS A MANIFESTATION OF ETC. ETC.
O-ONE MORE YEAR?! NOOO!

I'M HESITANT TO TALK ABOUT PAPA IN FRONT OF YOU, HAYAO- BUT HE HAD TRULY CHANGED HIS WAYS, AND WORKED TO MAKE MY LIFE EASIER.
HMMM.
FLASH!
I'M CERTAIN THE IRRADIATION HE RECEIVED 20 YEARS AGO HAS AGGRESSIVELY ATTACKED HIS BODY.
UGH!
HERE'S YOUR OUTLET.
BOING
TO PAY MY TUITION HE WORKED IN A DINER IN THE AFTERNOON.
JUST STAY IN BED. LET ME HELP YOU.
TAKE-O, I CAN TAKE A PISS BY MYSELF.
HE HAD REALLY DEVOTED HIMSELF TO ME. SO I QUIT MY JOB TO STAY HOME AND REPAY HIM.
CONSTRUCTION
DANGER
STAY BACK.
AND HE WORKED NIGHTS AT A CONSTRUCTION SITE.
WHAT? AMPUTATE?!
SHH-HAA
IT HURTS! IT HURTS!
BE PATIENT, PAPA, SLOWLY.
BUT HE JUST GOT WORSE AND WORSE.

TAKE OFF THOSE CLOTHES, QUICK-
IT'S BEEN 20 YEARS SINCE I HAD A WOMAN!
QUICK!
HURRY UP LIKE GO.
O.K. OLD MAN- LET'S GO-
FOR MY JOURNEY TO HEAVEN PLEASE GIVE ME YOUR TURN!
I DON'T CARE WHO- LET'S JUST GET IT OVER WITH-
AND THIS IS THE LAST FUCK I GOT IN ME.
YAIEEH! MONSTER!
SAW SAW
I'M DYING OF CANCER, BUT I CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT MY DICK.
BUT IF I DON'T WANNA DIE!
SOB SOB
SOB SOB
HUH?!
ELE-PHANT DICK.
WOO WOO
HE COLLAPSED AT A NUDE SHOW.
EH?!

UMGH!
A FEW MORE MONTHS OF LIFE.
I DON'T KNOW IF MY DARLING LOVED WANT TO TRADE HIS PENIS FOR JUST..
CLICK
BU-BUT..
IF WE DON'T AMPUTATE THE PENIS, HE'LL BE DEAD IN A MONTH.
SPECIAL OFFICIAL PANTHEON OF NUDES HOUSE OF PAPAYA
BU-BU-BROTHER!
HOTEL SYLVIA COITUS
BOBOJO HOUSE
KOREA PUB LIVE GIRLS
SOAPLAND
BAR IN-OUT
PORN
WIGGLE...
DO YOU HAVE MANA-ITA* HERE?
AH...
GRANT MY LAST WISH- I WANT ONE MORE FUCK- PLEASE.
GRAB
QUICK TAKE OFF YOUR PANTS!
EH?
YOUNG MAN I'M DYING OF CANCER!
I WIN!
PAIR, IN CRITICAL CONDITION, APPEARED THAT NIGHT.

*"MANA-ITA" IS USED WHEN A CUSTOMER IS SELECTED TO FUCK THE STRIPPER ON STAGE

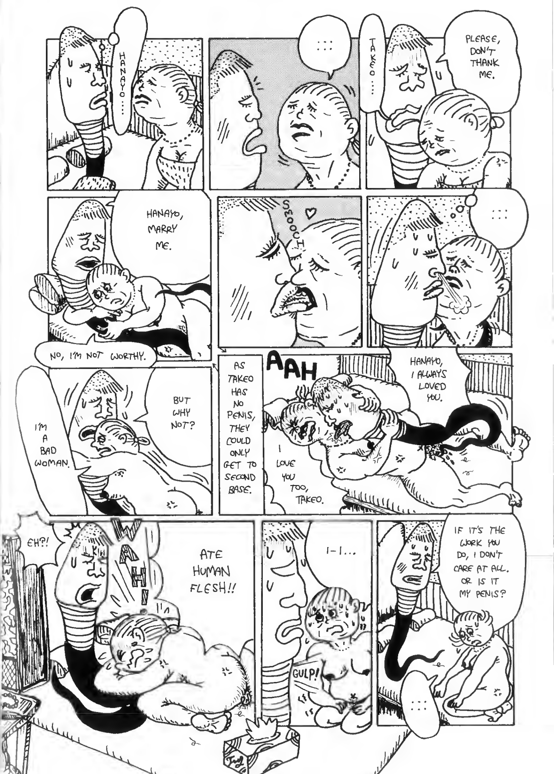
YEAH? IS THIS ME?
LOOK, TAKEO- YOU'RE SO PRETTY!
49 DAYS AFTER PAPA'S DEATH, MOM AND I TALKED ABOUT MY FUTURE.
BUT LET ME GO BACK A LITTLE.....
YO,
I'M SO HAPPY YOU'VE COME TO SEE ME.
I DIDN'T HESITATE TO GO IN WITH HER. I KNEW THAT GAYS AND TRANSVESTITES WERE THE ONLY PEOPLE WHO TRULY APPRECIATED ME.
SO, AS MOM'S DREAM HAD ALWAYS BEEN TO HAVE A CLUB OF HER OWN,
Takeo's World
WELCOME.
I LOVE YOU!
TELL ME MY PAST LIVES.
HEH HEH
CUSTOMERS AND FRIENDS FROM THE OLD DAYS BEGAN FREQUENTING THE PLACE, AND OUR CLUB THRIVED.
SH-SHE'S PRETTY.
SIR, THIS IS MY DAUGHTER.
OH, SHE!
NO-ANAL CANCER?!
IT'S GONE TOO FAR- IT'S JUST A MATTER OF TIME.
MAMA FELL!
KEEP...
KRECH!!
THUD THUD THUD THUD THUD THUD

AH, BY THE WAY, HANAYO, WHO DO YOU THINK I WAS IN MY PAST LIFE?
I ASSUME HE WAS SEXUALLY OBSESSED IN HIS PAST LIVES TOO.
A STRIPPER. HE WAS TRULY RULED BY HIS DESIRES.
SO HE DIED- BUT EVEN ON HIS LAST LEGS HE COULDN'T STOP HIMSELF FROM TRYING TO FUCK
PAST LIFE?
HOW ABOUT ME, MOM?
DIRECTOR, YOU WERE A BUTCHER.
MAMA, YOU SEE, I'M A MEDIUM- SHE COULD SEE INTO PEOPLE'S PAST LIVES.
REALLY?
MY GOD, TAKEO- YOU WERE A SPERM OF JESUS CHRIST'S!
EH?!
IT'S 1900 YEARS AGO, THE MIDDLE EAST. I SEE A CROSS- WAIT, WHAT'S THIS?
AND WHEN SHE LOOKED INTO MY PAST LIFE.
THAT'S WHAT SHE SAID- I GUESS THE JOB I DO NOW HAS THAT ELEMENT.
I THINK IT'S YOUR DESTINY TO GUIDE PEOPLE AND COMFORT THEM.

THAT'S WHAT HE SAID.
HE CONTAMINATED THEM ALL.
BLAMMO
SO, BY EJACULATING INSIDE WOMEN'S BODIES,
NO ...
ALL THE RADIOACTIVITY HAD CONCENTRATED IN HIS TESTICLES.
...
I WAS VERY LUCKY NOT TO BE CONTAMINATED ...
NO ...
I HEARD THAT THE CHILDREN THOSE WOMEN DELIVERED WERE HORRIBLY DEFORMED OR HANDICAPPED.
MADE UP SYMBOLS
WHY?
SO, TAKEO, I AM GRATEFUL TO YOU.
HE NEVER GOT A CHANCE TO EJACULATE INSIDE ME.
STOP!
NO- DON'T THANK ME- I HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT.
IF YOU HADN'T STOPPED HIM, THEN MAYBE I'D BE-
NO!
SQUIRT
SPOOGE
SQUIRT

TAKEO, IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH PAST LIVES- IT WAS THE RADIATION!
EH?
IN THEIR PAST LIVES TO BE PUNISHED SO HORRIBLY.
SADAKICHI SUZUKI
MACHIKO SUZUKI
YES, MAMA'S GONE. BOTH MY PARENTS DIED OF CANCER WITHIN A YEAR OF EACH OTHER. I WONDERED WHAT THEY HAD DONE
THAT EXPLAINS IT- AS A MATTER OF FACT...
YEAH, WHAT OF IT?
I WONDER IF THEY HAD ANAL SEX?
NOT AT ALL.
BUT IT SURE IS LOOSE ...
HOW'S MY DAUGHTER? IS SHE IRRADIATED?
...
HOSPITAL
COME ON!
OUR TOWN WAS IN AN UPROAR. IT SEEMS THAT ALL OF YOUR DAD'S RAPE VICTIMS WERE DYING OF CANCER?
HEY, I'M FINE!
HANAYO- BIG TROUBLE!
TWO YEARS AGO I WENT HOME FOR A MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR MY DAD.
... WHILE MASTURBATING.
FLASH
PORN
JERK JERK
YOU SEE, THE RAPIST HAD BEEN CONTAMINATED...
BUT, WHY?
YES, I'M AFRAID SO.
DOC, IS THE RUMOR TRUE THAT ALL THE RAPE VICTIMS ARE DYING OF CANCER?

THIS IS A BIG ISSUE- YOU CAN'T AVOID IT.
LET ME HELP ANY WAY I CAN.
AFTER HEARING ALL THOSE NUCLEAR HORROR STORIES, I READ THIS BOOK ON THE ADVICE OF ONE OF MY CLIENTS.
CHEROBYL AND JAPAN BY TAKASHI HIROSE
NAMYOHORENGEKYO
NAMYOHORENGEKYO
NAMYOHORENGEKYO
ISSUE
BEER
NO NUKES
HELL NO, WE WON'T GO!
SAVE THE FUTURE FOR OUR CHILDREN
POWER
STOP NO POWER
SAVE THE FUTURE
NO NUKES
SAVE OUR CHILDREN
I WENT TO ALL THE DEMONSTRATIONS AND RALLIES.
YES, I'D BE GLAD TO GO.
I'M GOING TO RECORD THE SCENE ON VIDEO. EVERYBODY'LL BE THERE- WHY DON'T YOU COME?
ONE OF OUR MEMBERS HASN'T PAYED HIS ELECTRIC BILL IN 3 MONTHS. ELECTRIC CO. IS SENDING SOMEONE TO SHUT OFF THE POWER TOMORROW.
NO NUKES
NO NUKES
(DIE IN)
CLAP CLAP
CLAP CLAP
CLAP CLAP
THE THREE OF US WILL GO WITHOUT ELECTRICITY FOR THE NEXT YEAR.
CLICK
THE LIGHTS GONE OUT!
CLICK
CLAP CLAP

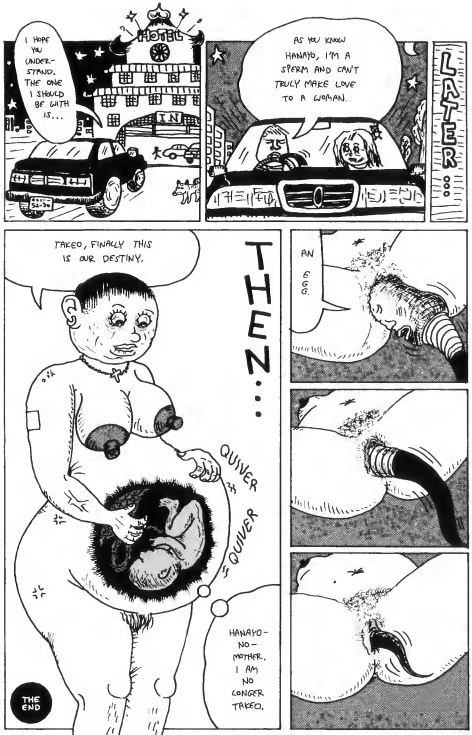

HANAYO...
:::
TAKEO...
PLEASE, DON'T THANK ME.
HANAYO, MARRY ME.
SMOOCH
NO, I'M NOT WORTHY.
BUT WHY NOT?
I'M A BAD WOMAN.
AS TAKEO HAS NO PENIS, THEY COULD ONLY GET TO SECOND BASE.
AAH
HANAYO, I ALWAYS LOVED YOU.
I LOVE YOU TOO, TAKEO.
EH?!
WAAH!
ATE HUMAN FLESH!!
I-I...
GULP!
IF IT'S THE WORK YOU DO, I DON'T CARE AT ALL. OR IS IT MY PENIS?

WHAT ARE THEY TALKING ABOUT?
FOOD.
THE BIBLE SAYS, AT A TIME OF FAMINE THEY MAY EAT OF THE SONS OR DAUGHTERS FLESH.
WE NEED PROTEIN TO SURVIVE.
BUT?
IT'S BEEN 24 DAYS. THE FOOD IS GONE.
WOOF WOOF
BUT THE WEATHER MADE A RESCUE IMPOSSIBLE.
HELP!
HELP!
CLICK CLICK
THIS ONE'S CLEAN!
YANK
I'M HUNGRY
NGGHH!
PASS PORT
FORM A LINE.
WE BROKE DOWN AND ATE HUMAN FLESH.
RUSSIAN!
HANAYO, DON'T EAT THAT FLESH— THAT PERSON IS...
EH?
ALRIGHT?
BOOD
UGH!
PASS PORT

AH, IT'S REALLY GOING OFF!
FROZEN FOOD
FRIED SHRIMP
ROMORI MILK
WE HAVE TO BE VERY CAREFUL OF THE FOOD WE EAT, ESPECIALLY PROCESSED FOOD.
NO NUKES
LOOKING BACK ON THOSE DAYS I REALLY HAD A GOOD TIME.
THERE WERE FEW SURVIVORS...
ANA!
I CAN FUCK HER FOR FREE NOW!
I'M HUNGRY
MEANWHILE, THIS MAN AND I DEVELOPED A RELATIONSHIP.
BOS!
G'WOOH
AND ONE DAY WE WERE SENT TO A RALLY IN EUROPE.
THOSE OF US WHO LIVED HAD ALMOST NO FOOD AS WE WAITED FOR RESCUE.
A-A-AUGH!
BUT OUR PLANE CRASHED INTO THE ALPS.
GUHO
WOOO WOOOOO

SO, FINALLY I ATE THE FLESH OF A RUSSIAN— NO— A HUMAN BEING.
IN FOR A PENNY, IN FOR A POUND!
WE'RE TRYING TO STAY ALIVE HERE! DON'T TELL ME ABOUT CONTAMINATION!!!
HEY! HOT ASS!
IN FOR A PENNY,
TOO LATE TO TURN BACK, NOW!
I LOVE YOU!
WIGGLE
AND THE TWO BEGAN MAKING LOVE AGAIN (BUT STILL ONLY GOT TO SECOND BASE)
HUF HUF
ME TOO!
THE IMPORTANT THING WAS TO STAY ALIVE— BELIEVE YOU DID THE RIGHT THING.
SO I'M NOT WORTHY TO LIVE AN ORDINARY LIFE.
HAIYO
FROM A SPERM'S POINT OF VIEW, WHETHER YOU ATE HUMAN FLESH OR NOT MEANS NOTHING— WHAT'S IMPORTANT IS TO SURVIVE.
AS HE WAS ONCE A SPERM OF CHRIST.
REALLY?

LET'S FIND A SAFE ONE.
THEN WHAT CAN I EAT?
REMEMBER CHERNOBYL! A RUSSIAN'S FLESH MUST BE DEEPLY CONTAMINATED.
HOW ABOUT THE ENGLISH?
THEY EAT THE MEAT OF REINDEER, WHICH IS KNOWN TO BE CONTAMINATED. FROM CHERNOBYL.
HOW'S THIS?
SWEDISH— NO GOOD.
FORGOTTEN THE MUTATED DANDELIONS?
GERMAN?
NO!
NO, PASTA IS ALSO CONTAMINATED.
ITALIAN?
ENGLISH? WHAT IF HE LIVED NEAR THE NUCLEAR PLANTS OF SOUTH WALES?
THEN WHO CAN I EAT!?
HEY, DON'T GET HYSTERICAL NOW.
NO, NO, NO, NO!
FRENCH?


I HOPE YOU UNDER-STAND. THE ONE I SHOULD BE WITH IS...
AS YOU KNOW HANAYO, I'M A STERM AND CAN'T TRULY MAKE LOVE TO A WOMAN.
LATER...
TAKEO, FINALLY THIS IS OUR DESTINY.
THEN...
AN EGG.
QUIVER
QUIVER
HANAYO-NO-MOTHER. I AM NO CONGER TAKEO.
THE END

EXHALE
INHALE
.....
TAKASHI NEMOTO MUST DIE!
BAM
ZUMOPO
AND GO TO HELL!!
THANK YOU.
CLICK
SHUT.
THAT NIGHT...

MONSTER

"...We are therefore to regard the state of
individuation as the origin and primal cause of
all suffering, as something objectionable in itself."
—Friedrich Nietzsche, *The Birth of Tragedy*

Rape, murder, dismemberment, cannibalism, necrophilia, corporophagia (which means—stop grinning—to eat shit), castration, radiation, every kind of penetration—what can you say about this shit? Takashi Nemoto, still, at fifty, the enfant terrible of Japanese comics, one terrible enfant, this shit smearer, smearing his shit with obsessive, Outsider frenzy for, lo, these thirty years. His Grand Guignol graphic novel, *Monster Man Bureiko Lullaby*, is a comedy of blight, a compendium of outrageous transgressions. In its every convulsive page, we find a Punch and Judy of perversities, a cursed land of ghastly slapstick where the animal body rules and cruelty is the tie that binds.

Me, I'm getting on. These days, my daughter wants a Christmas album with some talking turd on the cover and I'm aghast. The world itself is a shithole. Some sweetness and light, please. Instead, I'm forced back into this festering cave and I'm not sure I'm up for it. My only hope, a dim remembrance that the cave turns out to be a tunnel.

Flip through any few pages of *Monster Man Bureiko Lullaby* and it becomes clear that its world is not the Japan we've grown used to via popular culture. Nemoto eschews the codified splendor of the Floating World as well as the monstrous perfectibility of mankind as represented by the giant TV screens, gleaming skyscrapers, and space-age entertainments of modern Japan. Ultra-violent, yes, but it is not the acrobatic, gorgeously streamlined violence of so much anime and mainstream manga; in its own grim, prophetic way, *Monster Man* is even more futuristic. And sexuality, well, that's all there is—but, as objectionable a representation as it may be (and, golly, just wait), it's a world apart from the fetishistic eroticism of recent Japanese horror films and porn manga, where the reader is made a complicit and enthusiastic accomplice in the unspeakable crimes to come. If anything, Nemoto's end-of-millennium Bildungsroman harkens back in two directions: to the earliest Shinto myths in which procreation and pollution are deeply entwined, and to the delightfully brutal, children's gag manga of the 1960s.

Nemoto's own story is that of the paradigmatic gentle misfit who wills himself into becoming a ferocious artist. A squeamish, overly sensitive child made deeply upset by gross-out jokes on the playground, he secretly indulged his own rich, excremental vision. In his earliest comic strip, Nemoto drew the Emperor getting beaten up in a public bath and taking, as recompense, a giant shit. His father saw the comic and told him to cut it out. He was eight years old. Another early work, dating from the third grade, is revealingly titled *Beggar's Poor Party*. While other kids his age were hooked on the exploits of Eight Man, Astro Boy, and Speed Racer, Nemoto had already cast his lot with the wretched.

Like so many Japanese kids in the sixties, Nemoto drew his own manga, but, with adolescence, lost interest as he grew hip to the assembly-line nature of its industry. He floundered about as a disaffected teen—in desperate need of punk rock or something—unaware of anything smacking of an avant-garde. What he finally got—riding in on the same new wave as punk rock—was a look at an arch, anarchic, and outrageously good-natured comic serialized in *Garo* magazine in 1977 called *Penguin Gohan Passion*, by Teruhiko Yumura, aka Terry Johnson, aka King Terry. It had that same epiphanic effect that Nemoto's American underground counterparts describe concerning their first sighting of the comics of R. Crumb, or what Crumb's generation relates about seeing those first issues of Kurtzman's *MAD*. "Ah, this is it! This is what I've been searching for!" Nemoto remembers. "It was completely different from the old way of doing things. It was freedom."

Ignited by Yumura's influence, in 1980 Nemoto submitted to *Garo* a ten-page manga, the first he had bothered to ink (his earlier work hadn't gone beyond pencil), and it was published. This first story was

an unprecedented blending of the brooding, literary style of earlier manga masters like Yoshiharu Tsuge and Kazuichi Hanawa with the riotous buffoonery of Yumura. Nemoto soon found himself a central figure in the amazing, if not widespread, renaissance in Japanese comics that was taking place within the pages of *Garo* in the late '70s and early '80s. King Terry was its leader, both spiritually and on the playing field. He organized dada-esque happenings, designed the jackets for his friends' books, and, in a weirdly Japanese flourish, gave them American monikers, such as Suzy Amakane, Carol Shimoda, and Muddy Uehara. (That Nemoto managed to remain un-Americanized is a symbol that is borne out in the work.) The friendly competition, contagious inspiration, and joyous knowledge of liberation that was shared among these young artists helped produce an exuberant and influential flowering of comic art. *Monster Man Bureiko Lulloby*, both celebrated and reviled when first serialized in *Garo* in 1990, represents Nemoto at the height of his powers.

Written during what was already an historical critical period—Japan's ascendancy and its "bubble" economy of the eighties and early nineties—Nemoto offers a cunningly contrary reaction to his time and place. As Japan hurtled forward toward an illimitable future, Nemoto figuratively stranded his protagonists—amoral, misshapen, slaves to their basest desires—thrashing about in the anachronistic muck, sans board-room, sans techno-gadgetry, sans memoirs of success. In fashioning a Japan that is refreshingly and, for an American reader, exotically un-infatuated with things American, Nemoto takes us inside a brutal blue-collar underworld, and through the deathly and sometimes lovely minutia of comfortably dreary middle-class life.

As with other works of this shocking and comic nature, it's not surprising to find behind it a stern moralist, a puritan stripped of restraint in the mode of Flannery O'Connor, William S. Burroughs, or George Romero. And, like the latter two, Nemoto tends toward sci-fi fairy tales with a revolutionary tinge. Weaving through the many money shots of this dirty book, we find parodies and critiques of patriarchy, the law, education, religion, pornography, and the fabled loyalty of the Japanese worker—while Nemoto's sharpest arrow is reserved for the roles, sexual and otherwise, that we are shackled with from day one. The cliché that biology is destiny is first mercilessly exemplified and then annihilated; the status quo is repeatedly toppled; gay and transvestite culture is championed: and the line between deviant and upstanding behavior crumbles.

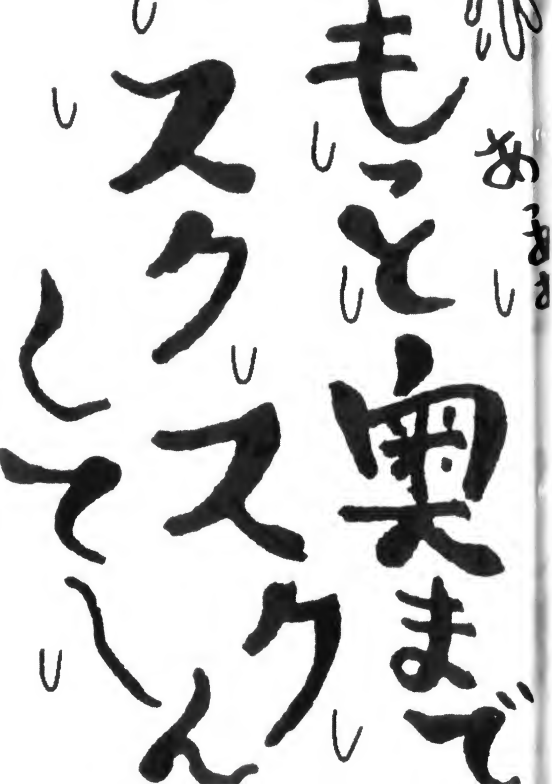
The tale itself, a portrait of the artist as a young sperm (just wait), follows Takeo, the malformed product of a nuclear mishap, on his pitiful quest to fulfill/conquer his strange destiny. Along the way, he tries on many masks—from Mishima-inspired muscle builder, to cross-dressing chanteuse waxing philosophic in a downtown bar.

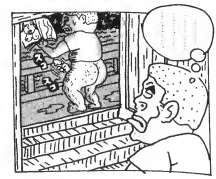
Despite all its nastiness, *Monster Mon* can be read on one level as an allegory of human victory—the individual's heroic clash with the stifling homogeneity of modern life. Yet on another level it seethes with that classic dark strain in Japanese art—as in many of Kurosawa's films—that black nihilism, where life, short, unappetizing, and brutish, is best lived in the womb. And throughout the graphic novel we find a surprisingly sticky sentimentality that seems particularly Asian and mixes somewhat queasily with the turpitude.

Once we've grown used to the smell, there seems something primal and essential in drawing after drawing of these unholy frenzies, these ribbons of intestines and shit. Nemoto's complex orchestrations of piss and puke are constantly spiraling toward wholeness, and in the end—and possibly against the grain of the artist's conscious intent—every line is an affirmation. It is not so much a classic cry, but, like certain other deeply felt works from outsider sensibilities—*Floming Creatures* or *The Journol of Albion Moonlight*, for instance—one profoundly awkward gawk: an exhausting temper tantrum, insane in its terrible sanity.

So much of Japanese comics, like so much of everything else, seems, to this old man, like power, fantasy, and escape. This graphic novel, despite its violence and despite its fabulist landscape, lies so far outside tbat realm that it adds up to a passionate denunciation of it: a slap in the well-proportioned face of business-as-usual. Or maybe Nemoto's particular power fantasy is to rub our faces in all this shit. Now, that would be sick.

Kevin Quigley
Newport, New Jersey
November 2007





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Takashi Nemoto

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ピヒョッ
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モヤ
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ピヒョッ
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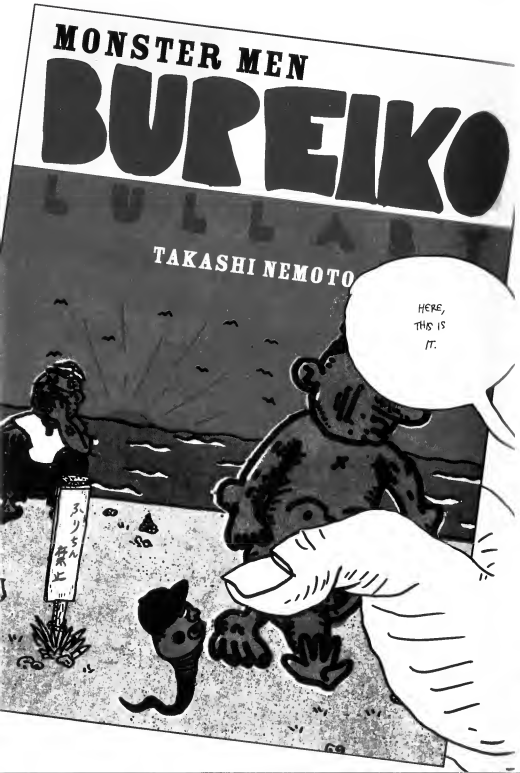
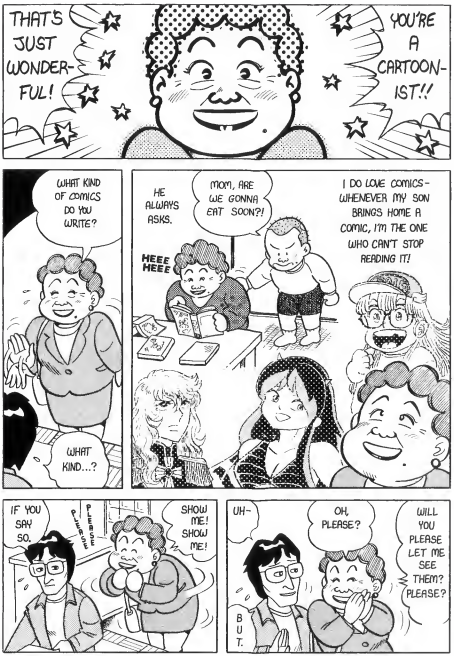
HELLO!
TAKASHI NEMOTO
CLICK...
CREEEK
I'M FROM ACME INSURANCE HOW ARE YOU?
WELL, ER...
UM...
IS YOUR MOM HOME?
SLAM
YEAH.
SORT OF.
IS SHE OUT?
ARE YOU A COLLEGE STUDENT?
NO, NO.
STARING
STARING
STARING
I WORK AT HOME.
NO, NO
COMPANY CLOSED TODAY?
HAHAHA
OH, I SEE, WORKING...
I'M WORKING.
LEAN


MONSTER MEN
BUREIKO
LULLABY
TAKASHI NEMOTO
HERE, THIS IS IT.


THAT'S JUST WONDER-FUL!
YOU'RE A CARTOON-IST!!
WHAT KIND OF COMICS DO YOU WRITE?
WHAT KIND...?
HE ALWAYS ASKS.
MOM, ARE WE GONNA EAT SOON?!
HEEE HEEE
I DO LOVE COMICS- WHENEVER MY SON BRINGS HOME A COMIC, I'M THE ONE WHO CAN'T STOP READING IT!
IF YOU SAY SO.
SHOW ME! SHOW ME!
UH-
OH, PLEASE?
WILL YOU PLEASE LET ME SEE THEM? PLEASE?
BUT.